

Peace negotiations could go on for years: Perez de Cuellar

Iraq-Iran direct talks to open today

GENEVA, Aug. 24, (Agencies) — Iranian and Iraqi negotiators today prepared to begin UN-sponsored peace talks as a truce appeared to hold in the eight-year-old war that claimed an estimated 1.5 million dead and wounded.

As their delegations flew to Geneva for the opening meeting, set for tomorrow afternoon, both sides continued to trade charges of ceasefire violations but UN officials said the situation on the war front seemed calm.

The opening joint meeting, the first ever face-to-face talks since the war began in Sept 1980, was scheduled for tomorrow afternoon in the council chamber of the Palais des Nations, the sprawling complex housing the UN offices in Geneva.

UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who chairs the talks, planned to meet separately with the two chief negotiators in the morning.

Perez de Cuellar was quoted

today as saying that talks due to begin Thursday on ending the Gulf war could go on for years. "It all depends on the political will of the parties," the UN chief said in an interview with the French newspaper Le Monde.

Resolve

"If they really want to resolve the problem, it could be done in some months. Otherwise it could last years and then I would have to name a personal representative to follow the negotiations."

Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz, the head of Iraq's delegation, repeated in a brief arrival statement his country's doubts of the sincerity of Iran's acceptance of the UN Security Council's ceasefire Resolution 598.

"The intention of Iraq is clear," he said, referring to a goal of a "comprehensive, lasting and stable settlement." He added, "what is unclear is the meaning and concept of Iran's acceptance."

Asked about the situation at the borders, he said the "Iranians tried to move the ceasefire line... but measures were taken to push them back." He did not elaborate. UN spokesman Francois Giuliani said at a briefing that he knew of "no major problem" in the area.

Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, was due to arrive later tonight. Iranian sources said he was not likely to meet the press.

Knottiest

Perez de Cuellar, who is to chair the talks, meanwhile, met the president of the all-Swiss International Committee of the Red Cross, Cornelio Sommaruga, to discuss the repatriation of the more than 80,000 prisoners of war.

The transfer of prisoners, including at least 50,000 held by Iran, is likely to be the knottiest issue in the early phase of the negotiations which are certain to last many months.

Resolution 598 urges their repatriation "without delay after the cessation of active hostilities." But the ICRC says it will accept a mandate to organize the repatriation only if it can make sure in individual interviews with each prisoner that he is willing to return to his country.

Spokesman Giuliani said the agenda would cover implementation of Resolution 598. That document, adopted one year ago, demanded an immediate ceasefire and calls for early troop withdrawal to international boundaries and repatriation of prisoners of war.

It also called on both sides to co-operate with the secretary-general in reaching "a comprehensive, just and honourable settlement" of all outstanding issues.

The long-term agenda for the talks also is expected to cover a border dispute over the Shatt Al Arab waterway, reparations and establishment of a commission to determine which side started the war.

PPP leader courts the Army

Benazir given armed guards after threats

KARACHI, Aug. 24, (Reuters) — Pakistani police posted armed guards at the house of opposition leader Benazir Bhutto today in what she said was a security precaution after the suspected assassination of President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.

The move coincided with increased security across the country as minority Shiite Muslims celebrated an annual religious festival to mourn the martyrdom of Imam Hussein.

Up to 5,000 troops with automatic weapons patrolled Karachi, Pakistan's biggest city, as hard-pressed Shiite men marked the Ashura festival by flailing themselves with chains in an act of contrition.

There were no immediate reports of trouble.

Precaution

Police said three armed plainclothesmen were posted outside Benazir's Karachi home as a precaution but added they knew of no specific security threat to the 35-year-old leader.

"We do not think there is any necessity for any security guards. We have not asked for them," said N.D. Khan, deputy secretary-general of Benazir's

Pakistan's Party (PPP). Five members of the intelligence services, which have kept open watch on Benazir's house for several years, were at their usual posts outside its high walls topped with barbed wire.

Benazir said she was told of threats against her life yesterday, when the government posted guards at her home.

"They informed me that they had received some threats so they wanted to post some guards," she said in an interview.

Benazir, who is pregnant, said she was not frightened. "My father was always receiving death threats," she said.

At a press conference Benazir traded her tough rhetoric of old for a new softness with the declared aim of giving the Army no reason to seize power.

Speaking to foreign reporters, she said the Army had pulled back from intervention after Zia's death and she urged politicians to ensure it had no pretext to change its mind.

"I would say that had the Army... wanted to intervene there was no better time to do it than at General Zia's death," she said. "The fact that they have not is welcome."



Benazir

"Now the political leaders must conduct themselves in the finest democratic traditions and not create any sort of circumstances or conditions that could give any further pretext for extra-constitutional measures."

The PPP leader is under no illusion the Army is the key in power in Pakistan.

"Its judgement will be critical and no government can hope to survive that is at odds with the Army. It would be naive to assume otherwise," she said.

(Continued on Page 2)

Iraq forces Iranian troops to retreat

BAGHDAD, Aug. 24, (Agencies) — In an apparent truce violation, Iraq said its Army forced Iranian troops to retreat to positions held before a ceasefire took effect four days ago and accused UN peacekeepers of failing to prevent the Iranian advance.

The report yesterday came hours after Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati informed the United Nations that Iraq intended to launch an offensive against Iran and had massed troops on the central front, a violation of the UN-brokered truce agreement.

It was not immediately known whether the troop movements reported by Iran and the confrontation reported by Iraq referred to the same situation.

There was no immediate comment from the United Nations on either claim.

Tense

In a cable to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Velayati said Iraqi forces were massed along the tense central front northwest of Ahvaz.

The region has remained tense since Iraq charged an Iranian sniper killed an Iraqi private in the sector after the truce took effect on Saturday. Iran has denied the accusation.

Later in the day, an Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman in Baghdad said Iranian troops had advanced after the ceasefire was in place and had taken up two positions across from the strong Iraqi Fourth Army Corps in the Ain Kiza area of the central war front.

The Iraqi News Agency quoted the spokesman as saying Iraqi soldiers were "forced to take the necessary measures to restore the previous situation" because the UN team monitoring the ceasefire failed to do so.

"The United Nations team exerted in vain continuous efforts during the last two days to make the Iranians return to their previous positions" after Iraq protested the Iranian troop

movements, he was quoted as saying.

The spokesman described the situation on the front as "stable" after the Iraqi "measures," and warned the Iraqi Army would not hesitate to use force to push back Iranian forces stepping outside their pre-truce positions.

The Iraqi Army is massing for an all-out offensive against Kurdish rebels in northeast Iraq in a bid to crush guerrillas fighting for an independent homeland, Kurdish officials said today.

"The Iraqis are planning large-scale operations in all the Kurdish liberated zones along the entire 340-kilometre (220-mile) border with Turkey," a spokesman for the Iranian-backed Kurdish Democratic Party, or KDP, said.

Tanker

Meanwhile, the first Iraqi oil tanker to transit the Gulf since the war with Iran broke out eight years ago left the waterway today, Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chialaby said.

Chialaby said in a telegram to President Saddam Hussein that the Ain Zala, carrying 18,000 tonnes of crude to South Yemen's Aden refinery, had passed through the Strait of Hormuz to the open seas.

Meanwhile, two cargo ships carrying 33,000 tons of wheat and several thousand tons of sugar berthed at Iran's Bandar Imam Khomeini port on Monday for the first time since the Gulf ceasefire.

New tremors

DHARAN, Nepal, Aug. 24, (Reuters) — A strong tremor shook eastern Nepal today as rescuers were still struggling to cope with the aftermath of a major earthquake which killed more than 560 people.

The Himalayan kingdom's national news agency said the tremor measured 5.0 on the open-ended Richter Scale.



Demonstrators in Rangoon wave placards demanding democracy. (Reuters wirephoto)

Referendum on multi-party system may be held

Martial law in Rangoon lifted

BANGKOK, Thailand, Aug. 24, (Agencies) — President Maung Maung said today that Burma's ruling party would meet on Sept 12 to consider holding a referendum on scrapping the authoritarian one-party government for a multi-party system.

Maung Maung also said that he and the party's top leadership would resign if the party rejected the referendum idea, the state-run radio reported.

Up to one million people marched in Rangoon against one-party rule just hours before Maung Maung's speech, a Western diplomat said. Also today, the government lifted martial law in Rangoon and withdrew troops from the city centre.

Longtime leader Ne Win, who toppled the elected government in 1962 and instituted authoritarian rule, had proposed a referendum on multi-party rule in a speech to his Burma Socialist Programme Party when he resigned on July 23. The party rejected the proposal two days later.

Maung Maung said all 14 members of the central executive

committee — including himself — would step down if the party rejected the proposed referendum, according to the broadcast, monitored in Bangkok.

If the proposal was accepted, Parliament would amend the constitution at an emergency session the next day to pave the way for holding the referendum, he said.

Today was the third straight day of mass protest against the rigid government, and the largest since military rule was imposed in 1962.

Destroyed

The Western diplomat, who spoke on condition of not being identified, said the Rangoon demonstration "attracted from several hundred thousand up to one million" people in the capital of 3.5 million.

Radio Rangoon, in a broadcast monitored in Bangkok, said Maung Maung had signed decrees lifting martial law in Rangoon and Prome town in Pegu district, 240 kilometres (150 miles) north of the capital.

Former President Sein Lwin imposed martial law on Rangoon on Aug 3 following anti-government demonstrations. Ne Win imposed it on Prome on July 22 after mobs destroyed houses and shops there.

Rejoiced

A throng of 300,000 people rejoiced in the Burmese capital today declaring victory over the government after a national uprising.

Chanting and singing demonstrators shook hands with soldiers as the military pulled out of the streets of the old city following a sudden announcement that martial law was being lifted.

Meanwhile, Amnesty International has accused Burmese soldiers of killing more than 1,000 demonstrators in anti-government protests earlier this month.

Soldiers repeatedly fired into the crowds and at protesters who turned violent when Burma's student-led unrest peaked in the second week of August, an Amnesty spokesperson said in Geneva.

US experts discount missile theory

'Explosion on board' caused plane crash

ISLAMABAD, Aug. 24, (UPI) — US experts investigating the plane crash that killed President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq are convinced it was caused by sabotage, a news report said today.

The Muslim quoted a Pakistani source as saying that a senior American expert, identified as US Army Brig. Gen. Cloyd Pfister, returned to Islamabad from the crash site on Monday and yesterday discussed the probe with Pakistani investigators.

The Americans were... convinced that the crash was an act of sabotage and not an accident," the source told the newspaper.

He said the US experts were still not positive of the method employed to down the aircraft, but added they were "almost convinced" that an on-board explosion sent it hurtling into the ground near the eastern city of Bahawalpur last Wednesday.

A theory that the aircraft was hit by a missile "does not hold much ground" among the US investigators, the source was quoted as saying.

No comment was immediately available from the US embassy on the report.

Killed with Zia in the disaster were US Ambassador Arnold Raphel, US Brig. Gen. Herbert Wasson and 27 others, including some of Pakistan's top military brass.

The investigation of the crash is being overseen by the Pakistan Air Force, according to officials, but two teams of American experts were called in to Bahawalpur to provide assistance.

One team is involved in probing the cause of the accident and the second comprises forensic pathologists, American officials have said. They have also said the experts' findings would not be completed for about two weeks.

Implicated

Senior Pakistani officials, including Zia's constitutional successor as President, former Senate Chairman Ghulam Ishaq Khan, have proclaimed sabotage as the cause of the plane crash.

They have implicated it was carried out by operatives of Khat, the Soviet-trained Afghan secret police. Under Zia, Pakistan had been acting as a conduit for American arms supplies to Muslim rebels fighting to topple the Soviet-installed Kabul government.

A report in Dawn newspaper said local journalists were allowed on Monday to visit the crash site for the first time and found that the bulk of the wreckage was concentrated within a half acre (20 acres) of land, with other parts scattered within a two-acre (80 acres) area.

The crash created a five-foot-deep (1.5-m-deep) crater and set one tree aflame, the newspaper said.

Sign of changing times

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Virginia, Aug. 24, (Reuters) — The University of Virginia, founded by Thomas Jefferson to produce classically educated ladies and gentlemen, is turning cigarette machines into condom dispensers in a bow to social trends.

"The university is installing condom vending machines as part of its educational effort to stop the spread of sexually transmitted diseases and especially AIDS," said Dr Richard Keeling, director of student health services.

The university, prestigious centerpiece of the state's higher education system since the early 19th century, is converting 36 little-used cigarette vending machines into condom vendors in dormitories, dining halls and restrooms.

What do the students think of this sign of changing times on their campus?

Students themselves proposed the shift last spring, Keeling said in a telephone interview.

Iran Air denies knowledge of Kuwait flight

By Jadranka Porter

THE Iran Air office in Kuwait denied any knowledge of the airline's alleged plans to resume Iran-Kuwait flights on Sept 20.

Passengers who contacted the airline to book a flight were told that no direct flights from Kuwait to Iran were scheduled for September.

It was reported yesterday that the Iranian carrier will reintroduce flights to Kuwait on Sept 20 after talks with the Kuwait Civil Aviation Authority and Kuwait Airways.

Iran Air's manager in Kuwait declined to comment.

Catch

Iran Air halted its flights to Kuwait shortly after the outbreak of the Gulf war in September 1980.

However, the airline has chartered a Kuwait Airways aircraft which once a week carries passengers from Kuwait to Dubai where they can catch an

(Continued on Page 2)

'PLO will be prevented from paying salaries'

Israel rejects US protest on deportations

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug. 24, (Reuters) — Israel today rejected the strongest US protest so far against the expulsion of Palestinian activists from the occupied territories.

One Israeli official said the harshness of the protest was unprecedented.

As a general strike called by underground leaders paralysed the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a senior Israeli aide vowed to prevent the PLO from paying Arab officials in the territories where salaries previously were

paid by Jordan.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Alon Liel told reporters Israel rejected Washington's contention that the deportations of dozens of activists violated international law.

Conveyed

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir conveyed the Israeli stance to US Ambassador Thomas Pickering at a private meeting after Washington warned that relations would be harmed if Israel went ahead with the expulsion of a further 25 Pal-

estianians, ordered deported last week.

"The subject of deportations was raised. Mr Shamir explained Israel's point of view and we do not intend to go into further details of the contents of this dialogue because we want to conduct it in diplomatic channels," the prime minister's media adviser, Avi Pazner, said.

He said both men regretted that the contents of the US protest had been leaked to the media.

The clash between Israel and

its major ally, which provides \$3 billion of aid a year, came after milder US protests against expulsions, the jailing of 2,500 Palestinian activists without trial and the blowing up of suspects' homes had no apparent effect, Western diplomats said.

Refrain

The text of the US protest, obtained by reporters in Jerusalem, said: "We urge you to reconsider the expulsion orders or, at a minimum, to refrain from carrying them out. We will oppose Israel at the UN and else-

where (on this issue)."

The document said: "An increasing number of Americans are wondering what Israel is doing."

The Defence Ministry's chief co-ordinator for the occupied territories, Shmuel Goren, dismissed Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's announcement that the PLO would take responsibility for 21,000 teachers and civil servants fired by Jordan when it cut legal and administrative ties with the West Bank this month.

(Continued on Page 2)

INSIDE

International	2,3
Kuwait-Gulf	4
Events	5
Editorials	6
Features	7,8
Business	9,12
Stocks	10,11
Junior Times	13
Classifieds	14
Urdu	15/18
Sports	19/20

اخبار و صفحات

- فوج کا اقتدار پر قبضہ کا کہنی
- جواز نہیں
- بے نظیر کے لئے خصوصی
- خاتمی اقتدار
- برما میں مارشل لا لاہا کیا گیا
- ایران عراق مذاکرات
- آج شروع ہوں گے
- پاکستان میں فرد و دار نہ ہم
- آہنگی کی اپیل
- شاد کی صورت حال پر
- اشراف شاد کا مجرب
- بچت اور خواتین کی حالت
- اور خواتین کی حالت

VEATHER

NORMAL summer weather with bit to moderate variable wind. It is of note: slight drizzle: 7.00 am, 11.00 pm
water: 1.30 am, 4.00 pm
sea: 5.22 am
wet: 6.17 pm
minimum temperature recorded:
sea: 40°C 113°F
lake: 41°C 106°F
air: 41°C 106°F
humidity temperature recorded:
sea: 27°C 81°F
lake: 31°C 88°F
air: 31°C 88°F
humidity temperature expected:
sea: 45°C 113°F
lake: 40°C 104°F
air: 40°C 104°F
humidity recorded:
sea: 6 per cent
lake: 15 per cent
air: 20 per cent
humidity expected:
sea: 10 per cent
lake: 25 per cent
air: 25 per cent

SURPRISE

International Video Film (Al-Hosawi) K310 and rest films
KDI - for the sale of three films: all the Indian, Pakistani, Bengali, Malayalam, Tamil and Urdu films in addition to wrestling films.
For is valid for one month.
Tel. 6346396

More Soviet republics demanding autonomy

In Tallinn, thousands of people at two rallies heard charges that the Soviet Union had falsified the history of the pact and the resulting annexation of the Baltic countries after Stalin's Red Army entered them in 1940.

Polish labour unrest eases

The police actions occurred at the Victoria and Walbrzych collieries. The end of the strikes cut to eight the total number of idle mines.

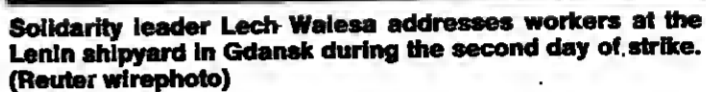
tion of curfews, summary court proceedings and an increased militia presence at strike-hit plants.

State prosecutors in Katowice, Gdansk and Szczecin

The nine-member council of Polish bishops was meeting in Warsaw and was expected to discuss the strikes.

The Soviet Union says it is watching the situation in Poland carefully, but has not issued any official comment on the continuing unrest there.

Soviet media today issued reports on a meeting of the Polish Communist Party's politburo, but offered no commentary.



(Continued from Page 1)

In the West Bank, shops and factories closed and public transport halted at the start of the general strike called by the clandestine "unified national leadership of the uprising."

The Army destroyed the houses of three Palestinian suspects in the Jafazoun refugee camp near Ramallah, none of whom has been tried for any offence.

"Many people with their standards of living in balance wake up early in the morning to form lines in front of bakeries," the paper said.

Police said the bombers held four children and five adults hostage while they used their car to

Twenty-six British soldiers have been killed this year in attacks in Northern Ireland.

"One glance, by an experienced eye sufficed to determine what was inside: an explosive device," Pravda said.

meetings must be held every five years to give both sides a chance to air their grievances.

Radar

The ABM Treaty limits U.S. space-based missile defence.

The Soviets maintain that some research on SDI, or "Star Wars," violates the ABM Treaty.

The United States has consid-

Palestinian sources blamed two more deaths on Israeli Army action in the Gaza Strip. A doc-

(Continued from Page 1)

She expressed confidence that if elections were conducted fairly she would win. She said her government would seek to attract outside investment, maintain close relations with the United States and honour commitments to guerrillas fighting the communist government in Afghanistan.

● Dubai's Emirates Airline is planning flights to Iran and Iraq, an official said in Abu Dhabi.

Earthquakes

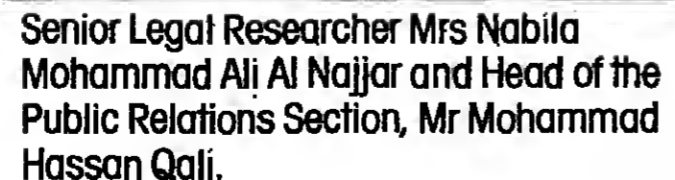
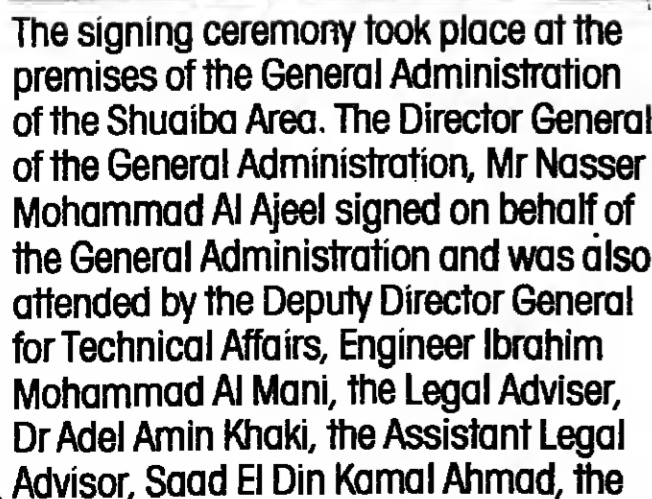
NICOSIA, Aug. 24, (Renter): About 30 aftershocks rocked the Iranian desert town of Garmsar near Tehran yesterday and today after three earthquakes broke windows and blocked roads in nearby villages, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported.

By the grace of Allah, the contract SBW/94D for the establishment and installation of new underwater pipelines for chlorine solution at the pumping station B in the Shuaiba Industrial Area, was signed on Sunday, Aug 21 st, 1988, between the

General Administration of the Area

and

Homoud Al Khaddah for General Trading and Contracting Establishment



On behalf of Homoud Al Khaddah General Trading and Contracting Establishment, the contract was signed by the Establishment's General Manager, Hamdan Homoud Al Khaddah and Engineer Mohammad Ibrahim Hamzah.

A fitness instructor for ladies,
one hour morning and one hour
afternoon daily.

Fridays off.

**Please contact
5332013/5327111**

with a minimum of 10 years' experience in repairing and preventive maintenance work for the following:

- **Central - split and window A/C units**
- **All types of freezers**
- **Ice-maker and Ice-cream machine**

All candidates should have:

- **Kuwaiti driving licence**
- **Transferable residence**

Please contact Telephone 4815900-4815323-4838612 Mr Mahmoud Wasfi from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm Saturday-Sunday.

MARIJAYOUN, Lebanon, Aug. 24 (Reuters): Fierce battles erupted between Israeli troops and pro-Iranian Muslim fighters in south Lebanon today and two Israelis were killed, Lebanese security sources said.

They said the fighting started after Israeli soldiers, backed by helicopter gunships, advanced six km (four miles) outside Israel's self-declared "security zone" into the villages of Yohmor, Libhaya, and Dillafe.

One Israeli soldier was also wounded in the fighting, said the security sources based in Marjayoun, headquarters of the South Lebanon Army.

- A wide range to choose from (24 different models)
- Special rates
- Unique service

- Call and Reserve your car now.**

الغانم
Gulf Oil
Tel: Main Office: 4843988 Ext. 2306
Telefax: 44900 GANIM KT

Other rental locations: International Airport 4735026 •
Algharhin Garage 4842688 Ext. 2832 •
Sheraton Hotel 5472820-2422555 Ext. 775 •
Al Rai 4743432 • Almosh 3991423 • •
Messiah Beach Hotel 5624111 Ext. 720
Kumrat Regency Palace Hotel 5722000 Ext. 6014 6025
Mondien Hotel 2455550 Ext. 956 • Shang 2443188 •
R&B Hotel 5887000 •



LAURENT & CLAUD

Sikhs kill 5 people in Punjab

NEW DELHI, Aug. 24 (AP): Militants shot and killed 15 people and injured three others in the northern state of Punjab over the last two days, officials reported. The dead included a member of the governing Congress Party. In the killings, the death toll attributed to violence by militants rose to more than 50. More than half of the victims have been Sikhs. Gopinder Singh Bharti, a municipal commissioner of Jalandhar and an activist in Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party, was gunned down by militants in his home early yesterday, news reports said. Three moderate Sikhs were also killed by extremists in the village of Tinowal, near Amritsar, the Sikhs' holy city, reports said.

In another attack in Amritsar, extremists killed a farmer and his son, according to the News of India news agency. In neighbouring Gurdaspur district, a woman and three men, Sikhs, were killed in a militant attack, the news agency said. Militants shot and killed a widow and then took her money and jewellery, said the news agency. The attack was unusual because Sikhs are prohibited by their faith to kill women and children.

The bodies of four Sikh youths believed to have been killed late on Monday were found in a drain by police from a village Mamank in Amritsar district. Elsewhere in the district, a truck-rigged with a bomb exploded yesterday, seriously wounding three policemen, Press reports said. Sikhs make up less than 2 per cent of India's 800 million people, but they are in a majority in Punjab state.

Japanese defence chief resigns

OKYO, Aug. 24 (Reuters): Japan's Defence Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone resigned today to take responsibility for a collision between a submarine and a cargo boat last month in which 30 people died, an official spokesman said. Press reports, which the spokesman declined to confirm, said Nakasone's resignation as director-general of the Defence Agency would be Kichiro Tazawa, 70, a former Agriculture Minister.

The submarine crew have been officially criticised for their slowness in helping to rescue people after the collision at the entrance to Tokyo Bay on July 26. Nakasone's resignation has long been expected but was delayed to allow him to attend the funeral of victims aimed at preventing similar incidents.

The resignation was announced on the eve of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita's first visit to China since taking office last November. Political analysts said Takeshita's choice of Tazawa would serve the power balance among the factions that make up the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.



A victim of Sunday's earthquake is helped to a hospital in a town some 450 kms from Kathmandu. (Reuters wirephoto)

More earthquake victims dug out

NEW DELHI, Aug. 24 (Reuters): Relief teams moved into remote areas of north India and Nepal today, three days after a major earthquake shook the Himalayas, but officials said the death toll, exaggerated in early reports, was now about 730.

Rescuers today dug out victims trapped, injured or dead under rubble since the worst earthquake in the region for 50 years, and in the Nepalese capital of Kathmandu panic spread after astrologers predicted a new major tremor.

Witnesses in Kathmandu said many people left their homes in panic after rumours the US geological survey had predicted an imminent new earthquake. The US Information Agency denied any such prediction, and the rumour was traced to local astrologers.

In India's Bihar state, cabinet secretary S.K. Lal raised the official death tally to 183 — still far below the 450 local officials had first mentioned. He said Air Force helicopters were still ferrying the injured to hospital from villages where rescue work continued.

Across the border in Nepal, the Home Ministry said the confirmed number of dead was 549 with 857 injured.

Relief teams were still heading into remote areas in the south-east of the country, which has tenuous communications at the best of times, where more victims were expected to be found.

A relief committee chaired by Prime Minister Marich Man Singh Shrestha appealed for private donations and in response to Nepal's cry for international aid, a British and French medical teams flew into Dharan, the worst affected town, on Tuesday.

British Army units were helping clear rubble and release victims still trapped in villages around Dharan, a recruiting centre for Nepalese Gurkhas who still form several British Army battalions.

Throaps of homeless people waited today for word from the government on shelter and compensation for houses destroyed or rendered uninhabitable by the earthquake.

Microlight aircraft develops trouble

LONDON, Aug. 24 (Reuters): A millionaire Indian businessman trying to beat the record for a microlight aircraft flight from Britain to India flew to Brindisi in southern Italy yesterday despite a large crack in one of his three petrol tanks.

Organisers said it was the first major problem of the flight for Vijay Singhania, who is attempting to better the 34-day record for the 6,000-mile (9,600-km) trip from London to Bombay set by British journalist Brian Miltoe last January.

Singhania, 49, took off in his 21-foot (seven-metre) microlight near London on Aug 18 and hopes to reach India in 23 days. His previous two days have been dogged by bad weather.

The petrol tank crack was found in a pre-flight check in Foggia yesterday morning and organisers said the Indian industrialist would fly the next 130-mile (208-km) leg to the Greek island of Corfu on only two tanks.

A replacement tank will be flown there, the organisers said. Singhania will then spend the rest of the day carrying out repairs. If forced to spend tomorrow night in Corfu, Singhania will fall behind Milton's record time of the first time.

Organisers said Singhania would be accompanied on the following leg, along the Greek islands to Crete and across the Mediterranean to Alexandria, Egypt, by a plane carrying his engineer and life raft in case he has to ditch into the sea.

More AIDS cases reported in Jordan

AMMAN, Aug. 24 (AP): Two new cases of AIDS were discovered recently in Jordan, Health Minister Zeid Hamzeh said today.

That brought to 14 the number of people in Jordan with the deadly disease.

"The two cases are being followed up and are under constant observation," the Health Minister said. He said that both carriers "were resuming their normal life and were not hospitalised."

He refused to elaborate on the cases, including how the two were believed to have caught the disease.

AIDS, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome, is a disease in which a virus attacks the body's immune system, leaving victims susceptible to a variety of other infections and cancers. Almost 90,000 cases had been reported worldwide by April of this year. The disease is transmitted through sexual contact, exposure to contaminated blood or the sharing of contaminated hypodermic needle by drug abusers.

CYPRUS PAPHOS
EXCLUSIVE HIGH QUALITY FREEHOLD PROPERTIES. DETACHED VILLAS on large plots. HOLIDAY APARTMENTS near the beach.
LARGE BUILDING PLOTS.
[Prices from C£ 8,750]
Most projects have swimming pool, club, restaurant, shops. Refundable inspection trips to purchasers. Easy payment terms on monthly instalments.
RESIDENCE - HOLIDAYS INVESTMENT - RETIREMENT
For more information and coloured brochures
Leptos Estates
The Leading Property Developers
P.O. Box 16, PAPHOS, CYPRUS
Tel: 061-23775 FAX: 061-34710
Telex 3556 ARMONIA CY

Soviets deny casualty report

Huge blast wipes out Afghan arms depot

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24 (UPI): Soviet and American officials confirm that a huge blast occurred at an ammunition and fuel storage depot in northern Afghanistan, but disagree on the number of casualties.

The US intelligence reports, gathered from satellite photography and accounts from Afghan rebels, said the Aug 10 explosion wiped out the large supply depot at Kalagay. The base is located near the Salang highway, the main Soviet evacuation route to Soviet territory.

One US source said the explosion appears to have wiped out two years' worth of ammunition supplies for the Afghan government forces, and may have also destroyed large amounts of gasoline and petroleum products.

The US official said that approximately 100 Soviet troops were killed plus "several hundred" Afghan troops.

In Moscow, Soviet spokesman Gennady Gerasimov confirmed that the explosion occurred but said there were no casualties. The US official, told of Gerasimov's denial, said he stood by his earlier estimate but that the exact numbers about casualties would not

be available for several days. Afghan rebels claim responsibility for the huge explosion with a rocket attack, but the US source said:

"We don't know what caused it. Maybe it was a rocket, but it could have been sabotage or even somebody smoking a cigarette where he shouldn't. The explosion vapourised the place, just wiped it out."

A number of Soviet aircraft and armoured vehicles were also reported to have been destroyed. Gerasimov confirmed the explosion occurred at a military site on Aug 10, but blamed reports of more than 500 died on "disinformation" by the Western media. "There were no casualties," he said.

The explosion further reduces the survival chances for the beleaguered Afghan government of the Soviet-sponsored President Najibullah.

Collapsing
Najibullah's brother, Sediullah Rabi, who defected to the United States last week, told reporters at a State Department news conference that the Afghan government will quickly collapse once the Soviet forces are out. The troops' withdrawal is scheduled to be completed by

Feb 15, 1989. State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley said yesterday the collapse of the Najibullah government is also expected to put an end to the epidemic of terrorism in Pakistan.

The State Department, in its survey of international terrorism in 1987, listed 127 attacks in Pakistan, mainly against Afghan refugees and Pakistani civilians in 1987. The toll was 234 persons killed and another 1,200 wounded, the survey said.

The State Department report said the campaign of terrorism was waged by Khad, the Afghan intelligence service that "is organised and advised by the Soviet Union."

One diplomat said 25 people, including 13 in one family, were killed in southern Kabul and 2,000 houses were destroyed in the northern sections in rocket attacks Aug 14.

Two days later, the rebels fired at least 25 more rockets in the capital, he said.

Polls dispute may spark civil war in Lebanon

BEIRUT, Aug. 24 (AP): Sharp differences between allies and foes of Syria — Lebanon's main power broker — over the election of a new President threaten to rekindle this country's bloody 15-year war between Muslims and Christians.

"Lebanon's fate is at stake," parliamentary deputy Joseph Skaff, a Christian, said this week. Parliamentary deputies representing the 80 per cent of Lebanon controlled by Syria and its Muslim militia allies want a President willing to crush Syria's main foe, the right-wing Lebanese Forces.

The Lebanese Forces is the Christians' main militia. It has links with Israel and is blocking re-election of former President Suleiman Franjeh, a Christian branded by political rivals as "Syria's candidate."

Franjeh, 78, governed from 1970 to 1976. He is the front-runner in a lackluster field of candidates that includes Dany Chamoun, son of the late Camille Chamoun, another former President.

Behind the friction lies old hatreds.

Franjeh holds Lebanese Forces leader Samir Geagea responsible for killing his son Tony. Tony's wife and 3-year-old daughter along with 30 others in a raid on the family's summer mansion in June 1978.

Reforms
Geagea opposes Syria's strategy of seeking political reforms that would give Muslims equal power with the Christians, who have dominated the government, judiciary and Army since independence from France in 1943.

Back then, the Christians were considered the majority.

Now, Muslims comprise about 55 per cent of Lebanon's four million people and Christians make up 45 per cent.

Last week, just 38 of the 76 members of parliament attended a session to elect a new President, far short of the quorum needed.

All but two of the deputies who turned up were Muslims. They accused the Lebanese Forces of physically preventing Christian deputies from attending. No date for a new session has been set.

Another meeting set for weekend

Koreans to continue dialogue

SEOUL, Aug. 24 (Reuters): North and South Korea agreed today to keep their uneasy dialogue going, setting a further meeting of lawmakers from the two sides for later this week, the chief Southern delegate said.

Park Jun-Kyu told reporters the decision was taken at a two-hour closed-door meeting with his Northern counterpart at the Panmunjom border village.

Park said both sides agreed the talks should resume by the weekend. The south proposed the two five-man teams, which met fruitlessly three times in the past week, should convene again at the border on Friday.

The Southern parliamentarian gave no details of his discussions with northern delegate Chun Kum-Chol, but the dispute between the two Koreans on staging next month's Olympic Games was believed to have been the main point on the agenda.

The Games were awarded to the city of Seoul, but North Korea wants to be co-host.

Demand

"I hope the north will come up with some amended proposals," Park told reporters.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) and South Korea have rejected North Korea's demand to be co-host, saying the proposal is against the

Olympic Charter. In an attempt to resolve the dispute, the South called for urgent talks in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang on Aug 29 to focus solely on the Olympic issue. The Games start on Sept 17 in Seoul.

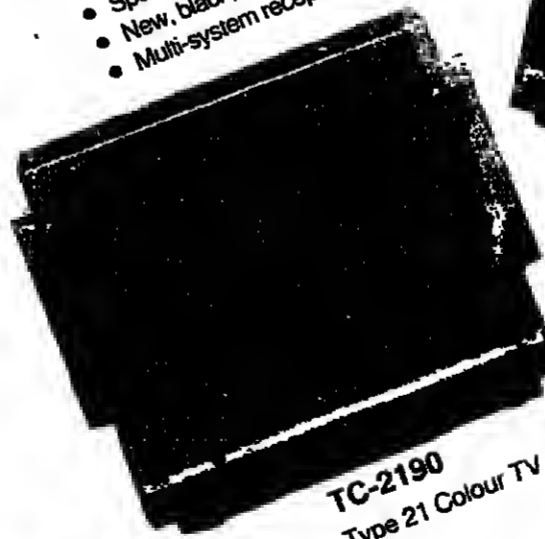
However, the North rejected the offer, insisting discussions should include other steps to lessen tension on the divided peninsula, including a non-aggression pact.

Today's meeting took place in a reception room, just a short distance south of the military demarcation line which has divided the Korean peninsula since the 1950-53 Korean war.

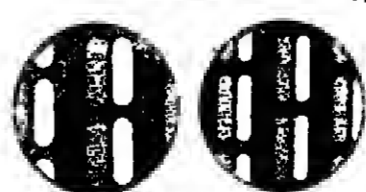
High Technology that raises Clarity for Large Screen, Corner-to-corner Viewing, Excitement.

WORLD 17 SYSTEM

- National's first 26" & 29" Flat Square TV
- A clearer sharper picture for large screen enjoyment
- Greater viewing ease
- Space saving design
- New, black, Super Quinix picture tube
- Multi-system reception.



TC-2190 Type 21 Colour TV

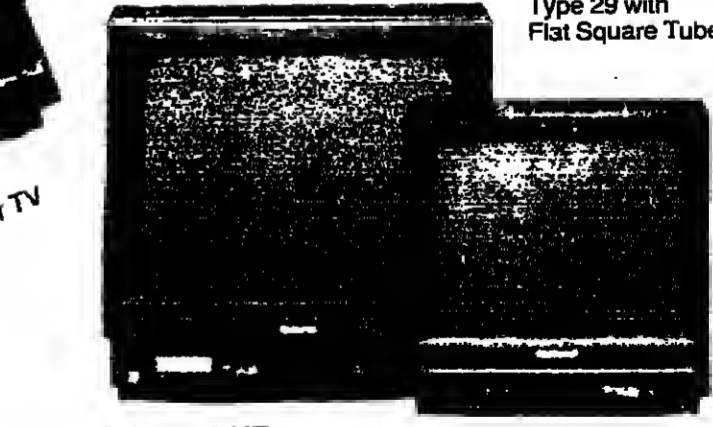


CONVENTIONAL DATA GRADE

GET ANY ONE FOR A GOOD PRICE!



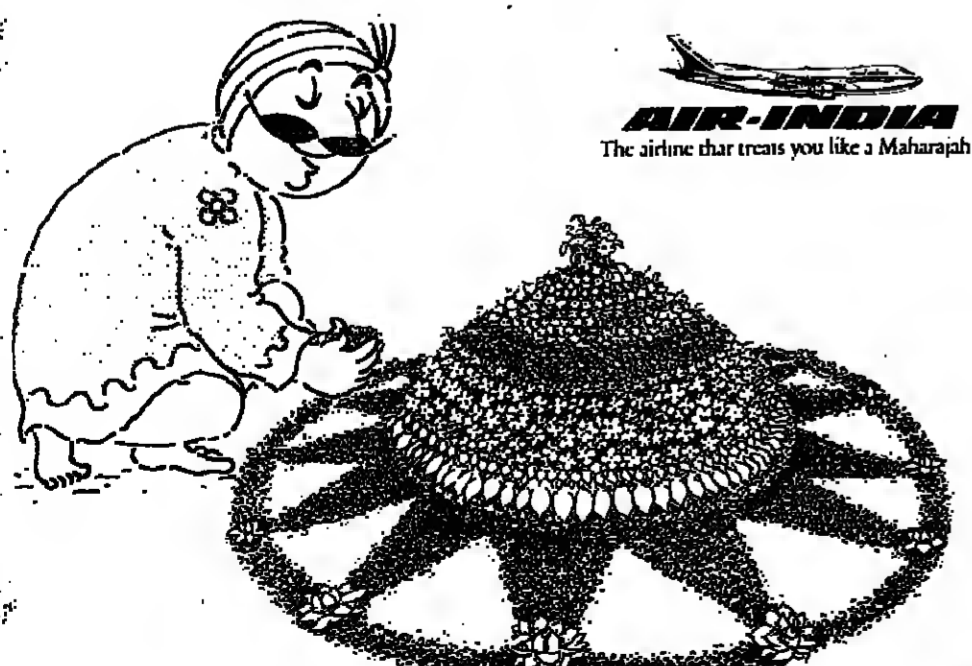
TC-2990 Type 29 with Flat Square Tube



TC-1880 XR Type 18 Colour TV

TC-485 XR Type 14 Colour TV

ONAM GREETINGS



AIR-INDIA
The airline that treats you like a Maharajah

KUWAIT ... GULF

Sheikh Sabah praises China's peace role

DEPUTY Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed and Iraq's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Saadoun Hammadi returned yesterday from Beijing. They are members of the Arab committee assigned to follow developments in Iran-Iraq war.

Sheikh Sabah told Kuwait News Agency that he and Hammadi discussed with the Chinese officials the situation in the Gulf.

Bolstering

Sheikh Sabah also said he and Hammadi thanked the Chinese officials for their role in bolstering peace in the Gulf region.

"We affirmed to them our readiness to work together within the framework of the Security Council Resolution 598 in order to boost peace chances which we hope for in this vital region and in a way that realises security and stability for its inhabitants," he said.

Appreciation

Sheikh Sabah expressed appreciation for the Chinese officials' readiness to do whatever is needed for effective implemen-



Sheikh Sabah (third from right) returned to Kuwait yesterday after visiting China.

tation of Resolution 598. Sheikh Sabah and Hammadi were received on arrival by

Foreign Undersecretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shabeh, the Iraqi ambassador to Kuwait, the

Chinese Charge d'Affaires and ranking Foreign Ministry officials.

Food for kindergartens won't be stopped

DESPITE previous news to the contrary, it has now been denied that the Ministry of Education has decided to stop providing children at kindergartens with food at the beginning of the new academic year.

A source at the ministry stated that there was no study about not providing food, nor is the ministry even considering such a move, since it fully appreciates the importance of the food service.

Commenting on a story published in a local daily about food poisoning reported in some schools last year, the source said that the ministry revealed the details of the incident in all local newspapers.

The ministry was not responsible for the poisoning and proved that it was caused by an infected food company worker, the source said. The incident was a result of negligence in inspection of places that produce food, which is beyond the duties of the ministry, he said.

The ministry is ready to co-operate with the Ministry of Public Health and the Municipality in more strictly controlling school canteens, he said.

Chief of staff to visit Moscow

MOSCOW, Aug 24. (Reuters): The chief of staff of the Kuwaiti armed forces will visit the Soviet Union later this month, the official Tass news agency said today.

Tass said Major-General Muzayyid Abdul Rahman Al Sani had been invited by Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev, the Soviet Armed Forces Chief of Staff and a close adviser to Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Iraq highlights Iranian violations

PARIS, Aug 24. (KUNA): The Iraqi embassy in Paris has published in the French press an article on "Who started the war," underlining Baghdad's position in future international arbitration.

Under a note of advertisement, the one-page article lists major Iranian violations against Iraqi borders and airspace in 1979 and 1980. Iraq sent 293 protest notes to the UN about the violations, the article said.

Intelligating

The article also quotes Iranian officials, before the war started in September 1980, on their attitude towards neighbouring

Iraq and their calls for the Iraqi people to revolt against their government.

The article accuses Iran of attempting to undermine Iraqi unity by instigating sectarian feuds and supporting rebel groups in Kurdistan.

Since the war started, Iraq has respected all resolutions adopted by the UN, the Organization of Islamic Countries and other international bodies, while Iran turned a deaf ear to peace overtures until its acceptance of Resolution 598.

The advertisement has been published one day before Iraq and Iran begin peace talks in Geneva under the UN auspices.

Kuwait will send more aid to Sudan

KUWAIT will spare no effort to get relief and medical supplies to help the Sudanese people face their health problems after massive flooding there, said Acting Undersecretary of the Public Health Ministry Ibrahim Al Mudaf.

Kuwait has already sent 35 tons of medicine to Sudan. More supplies will be sent soon, he said.

Prevented

Discussing health issues in Kuwait, Al Mudaf said procedures by health authorities prevented any cholera outbreak

here. Under the new health registration system, health areas are now dispensing drugs according to a patient's file and not by prescription, he said.

The ministry plans to unify the prices of medicines at private pharmacies soon, Al Mudaf said. By increasing the budget for medicines, the ministry overcame any shortage in medicine, he said.

National production of medicines was also increased and more new drugs will be produced, he said.

Iraqi Shi'ites mark Ashura

KARBALA, Iraq, Aug 24. (Reuters): White-clad men and weeping black-robed women pause to kiss the pale before they pass into the great Shi'ite Muslim shrines at Karbala.

Many lips have been brushed the door handles to a golden gleam and the solid wooden frame is stained a dull red where women have smeared on henna with their fingertips.

Streamed

Thousands of Iraqi Shi'ites streamed to Karbala on Sunday in buses, pickup trucks and battered cars to celebrate Ashura, the mourning ceremony which climaxes their religious calendar.

Every year the faithful flock to Karbala, 100 km (65 miles) southwest of Baghdad, and Najaf, 80 km (50 miles) further south, to visit the tombs of earliest Muslim martyrs — Imam Ali, the Prophet Mohammed's (PBUH) cousin and son-

-in-law, and Ali's son Hussein. In Karbala, worshippers chanting religious verses and beating their chests rhythmically form giant processions, generating an emotional intensity which causes many to break down.

Ceremonies

The ceremonies mark Hussein's death in battle at the hands of a rival Muslim in the seventh century.

"Alas, alas, only Hussein can bring us peace, only he can bring us joy, praise God," murmured an old woman choked with emotion as she wandered across the square between the gold-domed shrines of Imam Hussein and Abbas.

Inside the mosque dedicated to Abbas, families sat on the stone floor of the outer courtyard, resting in the shade of the blue-tiled alcoves after the processions were over.

Only a decade or so ago, frenzied marchers would cut their foreheads with swords or sharp chains until blood flowed down their white garments.

The practice persists among the Shi'ites of south Lebanon, but in Iraq it has long been discouraged.

Mail for S. Korea

THE Postal administration of the Republic of Korea has notified the Post Office Department of the Ministry of Communications how to send Muntaz post or other mail to participants in the 24th Olympic Games, set for Sept 17 through Oct 2 in the Republic of Korea.

The mailing address for Muntaz post and other mail is: Name of participant, Name of sporting event, c/o (Name of country) Delegation, Olympic Village, Songpa-gu, SEOUL 138-150, Republic of Korea.

KISR study

A TECHNICAL team from the KISR construction department is studying how to reduce the cost of prefabricated housing at government housing projects.

A previous study showed the cost of prefabricated building is 10 per cent higher than traditional methods. However, prefabricated houses are usually high quality homes and can be built faster, according to the earlier study.

Meanwhile the training department at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) will organise five courses from Sept 3-28. The courses will be attended by a number of employees from KISR's departments and will cover industrial safety, fire fighting, safety procedures for KISR laboratory technicians and computer systems.

Food poisoning

ELEVEN people suffered food poisoning last Monday after eating at the Kuwait National Petroleum Co. (KNPC) restaurant at the Shuaiba Oil Refinery, according to a local daily.

Two Kuwaitis, seven Indians and two Arabs became ill after eating sandwiches at the restaurant, sources said. All the 11 were released after treatment at the Ahmadi Hospital.

Authorities are investigating the cause of the poisonings.

Observing Mars

THE Ujair Observatory at the Science Club has invited members of the public and amateur astronomers to observe the planet Mars in September.

The observatory said it will allow all those interested to use the main telescope. On Sept 22, the planet will be 56 million kilometres from Earth.

The observatory has been following Mars and Jupiter and will continue to observe Mars throughout September.



This picture of Jupiter was taken by the Ujair Observatory on Monday.

Main issues to be discussed in Gulf peace talks

GENEVA, Aug 24. (AP): The following are main issues to be discussed in the Iran-Iraq peace talks opening tomorrow.

Prisoners of war: UN Security Council's ceasefire Resolution 598 urges that POWs be released and repatriated without delay after the cessation of active hostilities in accordance with the Geneva conventions.

The all-Swiss International Committee of the Red Cross, which supervises observance of the Geneva conventions, has registered 50,182 POWs in Iranian camps and 19,284 POWs in Iraqi camps.

Mission

UN Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar, who sent a special mission to the two countries to inquire into the situation, says the total combined figure may be more than 80,000.

Many prisoners on both sides are expected to refuse repatriation because they have publicly supported their captors. The ICRC, which is expected to organise the repatriation, says it will accept the mandate only if it has access to all prisoners to make sure they agree to return to their home countries.

War guilt: UN Resolution 598 envisages establishment of an impartial body which is to inquire into responsibility for the conflict.

Treaty

Border: UN Resolution 598 refers to the withdrawal of all forces "to the internationally recognised borders without delay." Iran holds that the 1,180-kilometre (737-mile) common border was delineated in a treaty concluded in 1975 between the two countries during the rule of Shah Reza Pahlavi.



An Iranian boat passing through the Shatt Al Arab yesterday. The waterway is a subject of border dispute between Iraq and Iran. (KUNA photo)

In particular, that treaty granted Iran its long-sought claim to the eastern half of the 203-kilometre (127-miles) Shatt Al Arab, the confluence of the Euphrates and Tigris rivers and Iraq's only access to the open sea.

That waterway has been the subject of border disputes for centuries. Iraq unilaterally repudiated the 1975 treaty on Sept 17, 1980, five days before its forces crossed into Iran.

President Saddam Hussein called the Shatt "totally Iraqi and totally Arab." On Sept 23, 1980, Iraq announced three territorial conditions for ending the war — Iranian recognition of Iraqi claims to the entire waterway, to water rights to rivers

flowing from Iran to Iraq, and to three Gulf islands seized by Iran in 1971.

Reparations: In March 1985, Iran officially assessed the cost of its war damage as \$350 billion and announced it would seek reparations. An Iranian newspaper earlier this month estimated total losses from the war at \$600 billion.

There has been no recent official claim by Tehran. Iraq has not issued an official assessment of war damages. UN Resolution 598, which calls for a "comprehensive, just and honourable settlement," makes no direct reference to reparations.

Gulf Air gets permission to fly to Baghdad, Tehran

MANAMA, Aug 22. (AP): Gulf Air has permission to resume flights to the capital cities of Iran and Iraq, it was reported here today.

Gulf Air — owned by the governments of Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the Abu Dhabi, of the United Arab Emirates — stopped its flights to Baghdad and Tehran like most other airlines shortly after the outbreak of the Gulf war in September 1980.

Schedules

Bahrain's Gulf News Agency distributed a report today, quoting the airline's public relations director Abdullah Abdel-Karim as saying that the flight schedules will be fixed once the UN-sponsored ceasefire appears stable.

The ceasefire went into effect on Saturday, with both sides almost immediately accusing the other of violations. The two nations are scheduled to start peace talks on Thursday.

Abdel-Karim said the two

flights were among the lucrative for the company because so many people want to travel within the region, the statement said.

New branches

GHOLOUM Al Attar, director of the Community Service and Further Education Centre at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, has announced that branches will open soon in the Jahra and Ahmadi governorates. He said the move is in response to public demand in those areas.

He said that after consultation with the Ministry of Education, a number of schools will be used to run courses for Jahra and Ahmadi areas.

The course will include training programmes in mechanics, television and radio repairs, typing, computers and English language.



HH the Amir yesterday received Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf (centre) and Deputy Chief of Staff Major General Jaber Khalid Al Sabah (left).

Envoys

DEFENCE Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed yesterday received the Brazilian ambassador who is ending his diplomatic mission to Kuwait. Meanwhile, Minister of State for Services Affairs and acting Minister of Commerce and Industry Issa Al Mazidi yesterday received the East German ambassador to Kuwait.

An increase in trade between the two countries was discussed.

Co-operative movement gaining ground

THE director general of the Co-operative Societies Union, Abdul Latif Al Kharazah, has been quoted as saying that the co-operative movement in Kuwait is well on the way to realising its economic, social and cultural goals.

In an interview with a local daily, Al Kharazah described the movement as effective, active and respected by all.

Kuwait is a founder member of the Arab Co-operative Union and a member of the International Co-operative Union. Al Kharazah was the first Arab elected to the executive bureau of the International Co-operative Union.

Al Kharazah said that gross sales last year totalled 192 million, which constituted about 70 per cent to 75 per cent of the country's total sales of food-stuffs.

In reply to a question, Al Kharazah said that training and preparation of personnel is a principal concern.

The union offers training programmes in co-operation with specialised institutions such as Kuwait University and the Kuwait-based Arab Planning Institute.

He also praised the patronage of the government and its moral and material support for the co-operative movement.

Campaign to protect Kuwait's coast

A CAMPAIGN organised by the Environment Protection Council in co-operation with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to protect Kuwait's shore-line ended last Monday.

The campaign included several seminars which focused on ways to protect the coast of Kuwait and its marine environment.

The last seminar dealt with the effects of sewage water on chalets and the people using them. Omar Bu Hamad from the Ministry of Public Works warned of the dangers of sewage which is poured into the sea.

Eidan Al Gallaf from the Environment Protection Council stressed the importance of protecting public utilities and educating people about the harmful effects of pollution.

The closing ceremony will be on Sept 1. Prizes will be distributed to winners of competitions organised during the campaign.

Sewage water purification

THE sub-committee for Public Utilities and Services at Kuwait's Ministry of Public Works recently finished their study on the expansion of the sewage water purification station in the Ar-Ridya area, a local daily quoted an official source at the Ministry of Public Works as saying.

The study will help increase the amount of the treated water used in agriculture. The study also confirmed the importance of preserving the environment, source said. The official said the project will be the biggest in the country.

The project provides for efficient removal of organic pollution at a reasonable cost, the official said.

Rent allowances

STATISTICS issued by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour have revealed that 8,447 Kuwaiti families received KD2,475,000 in rent allowances during the first quarter of this year. No cases of begging were reported during the first quarter of 1988.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audiences

HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah yesterday received Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed and Major General Jaber Khalid, who has been named Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army.

HH the Crown Prince and Premier yesterday also received Social Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed, Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa, Education Minister and acting Higher Education Minister Amwar Abdullah Al Nouri, Municipality committee member Sayah Bu Sheikhba and the Somali Ambassador to Kuwait, Mohammed Al Sheikh Mahmoud Moleingour. Sheikh Saad also received citizens in the public diwan.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

PLO asked to be cautious

A KUWAITI daily yesterday warned leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organisation against making a decision on a government-in-exile without carefully studying the repercussions of such an action.

The daily Al Rai Al Aam said in an editorial: "There are fears that statements and hints about establishing that government... would exhaust and disturb the uprising with plans that might be too early to talk about."

"Current circumstances have not yet matured enough to adopt sudden decisions or take serious steps that could face the Palestinian question with unclear avenues leading it to unknown future," the newspaper said.

"The Palestinian state, government and parliament should do a slow objective analysis of the regional and international Arab situation because it is important to choose the right time and a successful step."

Several PLO leaders recently said that a government-in-exile may be established, and some have affirmed that such a government will be announced before the end of the year.

Fighting crime

TUNIS, Aug 24. (KUNA): The second meeting of the Arab committee for fighting organised crime today passed recommendations that will be tabled with the Arab Interior Ministers Council in the first week of December.

The conference, representing 15 Arab countries, recommended boosting Arab co-operation in fighting the growing problem of drug trafficking in the Arab region.

The participants who ended their two-day conference today discussed methods of smuggling drugs through airports and the effects of organised crime on society.

Meanwhile, in Vienna, a UN committee for preventing crime today continued deliberations in

its 10th session in the UN centre here.

Twenty-seven representatives are attending the meetings which began on Monday. The director of the Researches and Studies Department at the Kuwaiti Interior Minister Colonel Abdul Meguid Khreybit placed high importance on Arab participation in the meetings.

The Kuwaiti official told KUNA that such international meetings give Arab participants the chance to explain their views on atrocious practices by Israel against the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab lands.

The committee might discuss the brutal Israeli measures under the article of family violence, juvenile crimes and contemporary crimes, he said.

A number of Arab countries are attending the committee meetings which will also discuss preventing juvenile crimes and forming regulations that will prevent youths from committing crimes.

Khreybit added that Arab countries have tabled with the conference fields studies on preventing crimes.

Algeria eyeing top Arab League job

ABU DHABI, Aug 24. (KUNA): Algeria is consulting with other Arab countries about the nomination of its Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Al Ibrahim to replace Arab League Secretary-General Qasbi Klibi, a newspaper reported on Sunday.

Several Arab states have supported Al Ibrahim's candidacy for the prestigious post. The issue is expected to be discussed in the next League session, the paper quoted an Arab ministerial source as saying.

A candidate must win two-thirds of the votes in the League's Ministerial Council to win the five-year term as secretary-general.

REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY skilled plumbers.

Please contact personally Engineer M. Ismail 2425089 8-10 am

WARNING

The following employees have left the company while still under our sponsorship. Those who know their whereabouts are requested to call Tel. 4816144, 391142 or inform the nearest police station. We warn those who employ or hide them of legal consequences.

1. Rogelio Gonzalez Jr. Passport No. 780954
2. Benjamin G. Bondec Passport No. D 455530
3. Alfredo P. Bondec Passport No. F 945087
4. Maymorio T. Guinto Passport No. D 441838
5. Enrique G. Mandana Passport No. 576337
6. Fernando Reyes

REQUIRED

for a cleaning company

- 1) Heavy duty vehicle drivers
 - 2) Diesel mechanics
 - 3) Auto electricians
- All persons must have more than 3 years' experience & valid transferable residence permit. For interviews contact Tel: 4719080 between 7 am and 12 noon.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum

The museum will be open to the public every evening from 5 pm and from 9 am on Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum

The museum, located on Arab Gulf Street, is open from 10.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm, Saturday to Thursday. A collection of the finest Islamic art objects are on show.

Fareeq Rajab Museum

The museum in Jabriya houses a collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world. Summer timings are 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, Sat. thru Thurs. On Friday the museum is open only in the mornings.

FILMS

British Council

Bugs Bunny takes off on a ridiculous romp through children's classics like Goldilocks, Jack and the Beanstalk, etc. in 1001 Rabbit Tales, showing on Aug 25 at 10.30 am.

The Assam Garden, the story of the relationship between a British and an Indian woman, stars Deborah Kerr and Madhur Jaffrey. It will be shown on Aug 27 and 28 at 6.30 pm.

It is advisable to reserve seats in advance by telephoning the library.

SOCIAL

Welcome Back to Kuwait

The Sounds Great organisation will hold a "Welcome Back to Kuwait" party at the Mesallah Beach Hotel on Sept 29 at 8 pm. The Sounds Great bands will be in attendance. For table reservations, ring Ken Winston on Adol/5740256/7 or 5758870.

Indian Ballet

Narhans a dance troupe led by Mohiniyattam exponent Pramela Surendran, will stage a ballet, Panchavadi, and a number of Nrithisilpas at its annual show, Nrithisilpa, at the Indian Arts Circle, on Sept 22 at 7.00 pm. Admission will be strictly limited; for free passes, contact Pramela 4337668.

Sounds Great

Auditions will be held on Sept 15-17 for singers and dancers for the next Sounds Great show, to be held at the Salmiyah cinema on Oct 19-22. For further information, ring Ken Winston or Adol/5740256/7 or 5758870.

Onam Festival

The Viswabhairathi theatre, Abbey, will celebrate Onam on Aug 25 at the Indian Arts Circle. IAC President M. Mathews will be the chief patron. The programme comprises Onam songs, Mohiniyattam, classical dances, Thiruvathirakkali, folk dances, light music, one-act play, boat race and Kerala rural arts. It will begin at 7.30 pm. Those interested in taking part contact Lazar Varghese - 4314511; Thomas Perumpilly - 4810490 ext 207; Varghese Paradayil 2422973.

Kuwait Malayalees

Kuwait Malayalees Onam Celebration Committee will celebrate Onam on Aug 26 from 9.00 am onwards, at the Indian Embassy auditorium, with cultural programmes, competitions, and traditional Onasadya in Kerala style. For passes, please contact 2412986, 5629747, 3943662.

Y.M.C.A.

The Y.M.C.A. will present the "Come September Ball" at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on September 1 at 8.30 pm. Highlights include the selection of the Queen of Queens. Top Ranks and Stepping Stones will be in attendance. For reservations, contact J D'Sa at 450279, 3981790, 3924659.

Country Western Musical

The American Community Theatre is rounding up singers, dancers and musicians for their annual country and western musical, to be held at the end of September. Interested talents, contact Nancy Parker 2523911/ ext 2346, 5725071 (evenings) or Nola Anderson 2428366.

Varca Sporting Centre

Varca Sporting Centre will hold their third annual social evening at the Tent SAS hotel on Sept 22 at 8.00 pm. Music will be provided by Top Ranks and Stepping Stones. For reservations and further details, contact Roland 2430581 or James 5331940.

HOTELS

At Mesallah Beach

Al Mubarakiyah restaurant, open 24 hours, offers buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as a variety of snacks.

At the Holiday Inn

Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop offers international buffet meals at lunch and dinner from 6 am to 1 am; a la carte also available. Fresh pastries and cakes can be bought every day at the Viennese Cafe. The Hanging Babylon Gardens are ideal for a period of quiet relaxation.

On Wednesday, join the Shabrazz barbecue at the poolside; there will be games, prizes and surprises. On Thursday, enjoy music and food at the Arabian Night at the Al Andalus Supper Club. Al Dana offers a special treat for children at the Friday brunch, open from 11 am to 3 pm.

Recreation facilities include squash and tennis courts, male/female gymnasiums with saunas, solaria, whirlpools, and massage and relaxation rooms.

At the Meridien

La Brasserie offers Friday brunch from 12 noon to 4 pm; also open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Beat the summer heat with cool juices offered in the lobby lounge; musical entertainment is provided in the evenings.

Mango promotion, featuring wide variety of mango preparations, until Aug 31.

At the Sheraton

Enjoy Italian cuisine and live entertainment by the Sienna's Duo at the Riccardo restaurant. Riccardo's is closed on Fridays.

Al Hambra features authentic Lebanese cuisine every Sunday and seafood specialities on Wednesday nights; a sumptuous brunch buffet is offered on Fridays. Live entertainment is provided by the Lords.

The Hunt Room offers a variety of meat and fish preparations at lunch and dinner.

Arab world specialities are available every Thursday evening at Le Tarbouche. A buffet lunch and dinner is offered on Fridays.

The Coffee Shop features a wide range of international cuisine and has a daily special.

At the Ramada

Al Bendera coffee shop offers continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to midnight, a la carte available. Shrimp promotion on Wednesday and Thursday, featuring a variety of shrimp delicacies.

Al Gandoul Grill Garden, open 7 pm to midnight, features a selection of grilled specialities. The Open Garden has selection of teas, coffees, and juices; Argilla water pipe available; videos shown on large screen every day. Open every day 7 to 11 pm.

Take away counter, open daily 4 to 11 pm, offers a selection of Arabic sandwiches and snacks, plus fish and chips. Tea, coffee, juices, cakes and pastries are available at the Ramada Al Salam lobby lounge, open 10 am to 11 pm.

ice-cream promotion daily.

On Thursday evenings, Le Mirage nightclub has a barbecue and full buffet; entertainment from Al Arzz band.

At the Continental

The Gardenia, open from 7 am to midnight, offers buffets featuring Arabic, Continental and Indian food at dinner on Thursday and at lunch on Friday.

The Darbar offers lunch buffet every Thursday. A la carte for dinner.

At the Hilton

La Palma has introduced a new 12-day buffet cycle featuring Arab specialities; open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner, from 6.30 am to midnight. On Friday, the lunch buffet is open from noon to 3 pm; live music from the Magnetic Quartet.

At the Failaka restaurant, select from a wide variety of dishes to make your own table top buffet. The Magnetic Band provides live music in the evenings. Open every day 12.30 pm and 7.30-11.30 pm.

Ice-cream, cold drinks and this week's special - coconut pie - are available at La Patisserie. Open daily 10.30 am - 10.45 pm. There is a mini-barbecue every Friday by the garden pool, noon till 3 pm.

At the Kuwait Plaza

The Al Dallah coffee shop offers buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as a set menu mini business lunch. Ice-cream festival at the International Food Arcade; light snacks also available; open 10.00 am to 11.00 pm.

Enjoy Turkish cuisine, a la carte, at the Bosphorus restaurant. Open for lunch and dinner every day except Saturday. The Marco Polo restaurant offers Italian food, live music and a candlelight atmosphere.

There is a Filipino Night every Sunday 7.00 to 9.30 pm; live entertainment provided.

SPORTS

IVth Winners Cup cricket tournament

The YMCA will hold the All Kuwait Open IVth Winners Cup cricket tournament, beginning Sept 16. It will be played on Fridays and holidays at the Ahmadi Governorate Ground located behind the Computer Centre. Teams wishing to participate can contact Joe D'Sa, Tel: 3981790, 3-5 pm; 3924659, 5-8 pm. The draw will be held on Friday, Aug 26, at 9 am at the Kuwait Lanka Restaurant, Fahaeel.

Masters' Bowling Tournament

The second Masters' Tournament, open to both men and women, will be held on Aug 25-26 and Sept 1-2 at 300 Silver Tower (behind US embassy). The deadline for registration is Aug 23. For particulars, please contact Sarah Macarimbang 4843447.

Salcedo United

The Salcedo United Sports Centre will hold their third annual Gold Cup Football Tournament starting Sept 9. Those interested may contact Peter 2434415 or Mariano 4744150 after 5 pm, before Sept 1. The draw will be held on Sept 2 at 9 am, at the Phoenicia hotel.

Boy's Own Club

Boy's Own Club will organise a seven-a-side one-day football festival on the holiday declared to mark the Prophet's birthday (Oct 22/23). Interested teams can contact Milagres 3967446 or Joe D'Souza 4813622.

WHAT'S ON

* All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shurwaik. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

KTV 1

9:00 Holy Quran
9:30 Space Adventures
10:15 Harat Al Bahar
11:15 Abu Saleh Yuread Hallan

12:30 Magic Show

1:00 News

1:05 World today via satellite
1:40 Awarq Al Daliya

3:35 Cartoons

4:15 The Saint: English serial starring Roger Moore as Simon Templar

5:00 Liqa Al Khamis: variety show

7:15 The Equestrian

7:45 Ma'a Al Islam

8:30 Wa Qalat Al Arab

9:00 News

10:00 Arabic feature film

11:45 Thursday Late Night variety show

12:45 Musical programme

1:30 News summary

1:35 World today via satellite/Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY

9:00 Holy Quran

9:15 Cartoons

10:15 Al Saif Al Mafqud: serial for children starring Abdul Aziz Al Haddad, Ahmed Al Hazem, Ali Al Mufidi, and Awatef Mohammed

10:45 Religious programme

11:45 Religious programme

12:45 Religious programme

1:30 Religious programme

2:00 Religious programme

2:30 Religious programme

3:00 Religious programme

3:30 Religious programme

4:00 Religious programme

4:30 Religious programme

5:00 Religious programme

5:30 Religious programme

6:00 Religious programme

6:30 Religious programme

7:00 Religious programme

7:30 Religious programme

8:00 Religious programme

8:30 Religious programme

9:00 Religious programme

9:30 Religious programme

10:00 Religious programme

10:30 Religious programme

11:00 Religious programme

11:30 Religious programme

12:00 Religious programme

12:30 Religious programme

1:00 Religious programme

1:30 Religious programme

2:00 Religious programme

2:30 Religious programme

3:00 Religious programme

3:30 Religious programme

4:00 Religious programme

4:30 Religious programme

5:00 Religious programme

5:30 Religious programme

6:00 Religious programme

6:30 Religious programme

7:00 Religious programme

7:30 Religious programme

8:00 Religious programme

8:30 Religious programme

9:00 Religious programme

9:30 Religious programme

10:00 Religious programme

10:30 Religious programme

11:00 Religious programme

11:30 Religious programme

12:00 Religious programme

12:30 Religious programme

1:00 Religious programme

1:30 Religious programme

2:00 Religious programme

2:30 Religious programme

3:00 Religious programme

3:30 Religious programme

4:00 Religious programme

4:30 Religious programme

5:00 Religious programme

5:30 Religious programme

6:00 Religious programme

6:30 Religious programme

7:00 Religious programme

7:30 Religious programme

8:00 Religious programme

8:30 Religious programme

9:00 Religious programme

9:30 Religious programme

10:00 Religious programme

10:30 Religious programme

11:00 Religious programme

11:30 Religious programme

12:00 Religious programme

12:30 Religious programme

1:00 Religious programme

1:30 Religious programme

2:00 Religious programme

2:30 Religious programme

3:00 Religious programme

3:30 Religious programme

4:00 Religious programme

4:30 Religious programme

5:00 Religious programme

5:30 Religious programme

6:00 Religious programme

6:30 Religious programme

7:00 Religious programme

7:30 Religious programme

8:00 Religious programme

8:30 Religious programme

9:00 Religious programme

9:30 Religious programme

10:00 Religious programme

10:30 Religious programme

11:00 Religious programme

11:30 Religious programme

12:00 Religious programme

12:30 Religious programme

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES



Charles Bronson stars in The Evil That Men Do, on KTV 2 at 10.30 pm on Thursday.

11:45 Friday prayer

12:25 Al Riza Al Nour: religious programme

1:00 News

1:05 World today via satellite

1:30 Weekly Religious Talk

2:00 A special programme on the results of the Ramadan TV competition results

4:41 Cartoon serial Haidi

5:05 Variety programme

5:35 Summer 88

5:47 Cultural film - Birds of the world

6:30 Kuwait in a week

7:30 Archaeology and Islamic Arts in Morocco

9:00 News

9:45 Wrestling

10:45 Naseeb local weekly serial

11:45 News summary

11:50 World today via satellite

12:00 World today via satellite

12:30 World today via satellite

1:00 World today via satellite

1:30 World today via satellite

2:00 World today via satellite

2:30 World today via satellite

3:00 World today via satellite

3:30 World today via satellite

4:00 World today via satellite

4:30 World today via satellite

5:00 World today via satellite

5:30 World today via satellite

6:00 World today via satellite

6:30 World today via satellite

7:00 World today via satellite

7:30 World today via satellite

8:00 World today via satellite

8:30 World today via satellite

9:00 World today via satellite

9:30 World today via satellite

10:00 World today via satellite

10:30 World today via satellite

11:00 World today via satellite

11:30 World today via satellite

12:00 World today via satellite

12:30 World today via satellite

1:00 World today via satellite

1:30 World today via satellite

2:00 World today via satellite

LETTERS & EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

I NEVER made a mistake in my life — at least never one that I couldn't explain away afterwards — Rudyard Kipling, English writer (1865-1936).

Palestinian uprising spills into Israel

By Jonathan Karp

TEL AVIV, (Reuters): When Arabs hurled three fire bombs from the roof of a Tel Aviv shopping mall in June, many Israelis feared the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip had spilled into Israel.

A grenade blast on Saturday that wounded 25 people on a busy street in nearby Haifa reinforced the feeling many people have that the eight-month-old intifada (uprising) is also being fought inside Israel.

Politicians and security officials have sought to allay the fears.

"Naturally, there are cases with clear nationalist motives, but I would say these incidents are sporadic, occurring here and there," Tel Aviv police chief Yigael Marcus told Reuters.

Tel Aviv, the commercial and entertainment capital of Israel and seat of its largest metropolitan area, is in many ways the heart of the modern Jewish state. It was founded on Mediterranean sand dunes almost 80 years ago as the first all-Jewish city in modern times.

No one was injured by the fire bombs in Tel Aviv, which were tossed into a side street.

Crimes Since the incident, however, Tel Aviv police have recorded more than 40 politically motivated crimes, a marked increase over any two-month period in recent memory, a senior officer says.

Arab-Jewish violence in the area has escalated in the past two weeks with the deaths of three Palestinians from arson, the beatings of five Arabs, the attempted drowning of a Jewish boy, and a spate of arsons and incidents of rock — and bottle-throwing.

In addition, so many Nazi swastikas and pro-Palestine Liberation Organisation slogans have been daubed on Tel Aviv buildings that the municipality has set up a unit solely devoted to cleaning them off.

"We call it the anti-intifada team," a city official told Reuters, only partly in jest. His unit answered more than 50 calls in its first week of operation.

Marcus maintains the incidents are no cause for alarm.

With 27,000 Israeli Arabs in the southern Jaffa area and an estimated "tens of thousands" of

West Bank and Gaza Palestinian workers, the Tel Aviv area has long been a site of Arab-Jewish violence, stemming mostly from ordinary crime.

The volatile atmosphere created by the intifada has imbued almost every episode of Arab-Jewish strife with political significance.

Moreover, police say, both sides are taking advantage of the tensions to stroke their respective nationalist fires, leading to exaggerated stories of, among others, beatings and attempted drownings.

"It's often like trying to find out whether the dog bit the man or the man bit the dog," Marcus said.

Another senior officer remarked: "We have to be careful because there are so many interests at stake."

In one case, a Tel Aviv woman claimed nationalist Arabs tried to kidnap her six-year-old son. Her vivid description of the incident sparked anger among Jews. But police quickly dismissed her account after failing to find any witnesses to an event that supposedly occurred in broad daylight in a busy shopping district.

However, the next day two Jewish men in the same lower-middle-class neighbourhood, in an apparent act of reprisal, were accused of attacking two Arab workers along with the workers' Jewish boss who tried to defend them.

Reprisals Reprisals worry Marcus. He denies the intifada has reached Tel Aviv but asserts his job is to prevent it from snowballing.

The incidents in the Tel Aviv area have not commanded much media attention, compared to clashes in the occupied territories, where nearly all of the unrest's more than 262 Arab and four Jewish victims have been killed.

Violence begets more violence on both sides. Police arrested four Jews from the nearby suburb of Or Yehuda on suspicion of locking three Gaza Strip Arab labourers in a shed and burning them to death.

Army officials said that news of the Or Yehuda incident sparked protests among the 650,000 Palestinians of the Gaza Strip, quashed by a round-the-clock Army curfew in mid-August.

Zia's death

Afghan government benefits indirectly

By Adam Kellihier

KABUL, (UPI): The Afghan government is likely to benefit indirectly from the death of Pakistani President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq and the Soviet Union could find it easier to complete its troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Although diplomats said Thursday they did not expect any major shift in Pakistan's support for Afghan rebels fighting the communist government following Zia's death Wednesday in a plane crash, they noted the guerrillas have lost their most unwavering supporter in Zia.

"Zia is going to be a hard man to replace in terms of devotion to the mujahedeen (guerrilla) cause," a Western diplomat said. Other analysts added that the country is bound to be diverted from this support as different factions vie for power. "To some extent, the Afghan government will be given breathing space," a senior Asian diplomat said.

Resistance The resistance also is likely to be hampered, at least temporarily, by the death of Gen Akhtar Abdur Rahman, the Pakistani chief of state who was aboard Zia's aircraft. Rahman co-ordinated assistance to the rebels and had close personal rapport with all the guerrilla leaders.

With Pakistan investigating the possibility of sabotage in the crash, Afghanistan's government and its chief sponsor, the Soviet Union, are bound to come under suspicion.

Former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said the Soviets will get "credit" in the region for Zia's death and "are significant beneficiaries." He added, "it reduces Pakistan's capacity to

influence the outcome of the Afghan civil war that will inevitably occur in Afghanistan after Soviet troops withdraw."

He also said Zia's death makes it "easier" for the Soviets to continue their withdrawal. "This makes the supply to resistance fighters more difficult... because there will be no really authoritative government in Pakistan for many months, not until the elections," scheduled for November.

President Najibullah of Afghanistan has offered his condolences and expressed hopes for good future relations with Pakistan.

However, a Soviet source, who declined to be identified, said several high-ranking Afghan officials had expressed "a satisfied reaction" to Zia's death, although he dismissed the possibility of involvement by Moscow or Kabul.

Zia had so many enemies, not only Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, he said.

India has fought three wars with Pakistan and relations recently have been tense. Zia also had numerous internal opponents opposed to his harsh Islamic rule.

Attack A senior US official pointed out that toward possible Soviet involvement, saying in Washington, "The Soviets have been attacking and warning Zia for the past week, so they have some explaining to do."

As the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan has picked up steam, there have been increasing charges by Moscow and Kabul that Islamabad was violating the Geneva accord which established the timetable for the pullout of 115,000 Soviet soldiers, scheduled to be completed by Feb 15.

Let us be honest

SIR: While appreciating the patriotism of Jacob Philip as expressed in his letter to the Arab Times (Aug 11-12), let us look to the other side of things. Larry Banks of the British Council is a very responsible diplomat and his observation could not be unfounded. Before over-reacting to such remarks, let us look at ourselves.

Banks' remarks should serve as an eye opener to all of us. Haven't we heard that "sins of an individual blur the image of everyone." Here in Kuwait we have more than one such individual among us who have perfected the art of illegally recruiting peoples skillfully evading the law of both the land of recruitment and the land of employment.

About the Indian English, Banks would be astonished to know how brilliantly we could use the "comedy" of English pronunciation.

Recently an unskilled labourer was recruited on a salary of KD 90 per month. When the poor labourer found that his pay packet contained only KD 19, his recruiter told him that English is spoken differently in Kuwait and "ninety" should be pronounced

with two long "ees" and one "n" at the end.

Another episode: a job seeker was promised a "work visa" on a higher salary and on arrival to his dreamland the poor man found himself employed as a domestic servant.

When he wanted to know how did it happen, he was told by the recruiter that by "work visa" he actually meant "Varkey visa," because the visa was arranged by a man named Varkey. So we have learnt the English language and we know scientifically its co-efficient of elasticity.

Instead of getting upset at such remarks pointed at us, let us look to reforming ourselves by isolating and exposing such anti-social elements.

Banks would be doing a further service to the Indian society if he would divulge the names of persons involved in the Brunei recruitment scheme.

An Indian, (Name and address supplied).

What a shame!

SIR: I refer to the letters in the Arab Times about Chief Minister of Kerala E.K. Nayanar's appeal for contribution to a distress fund for the people affected by the July 8 Perumun train tragedy.

I like to remind your readers, that those who gladly and wholeheartedly supported Nayanar's earlier calls for funds, have ditched him this time just because it was a call for direct remittance. What a shame!

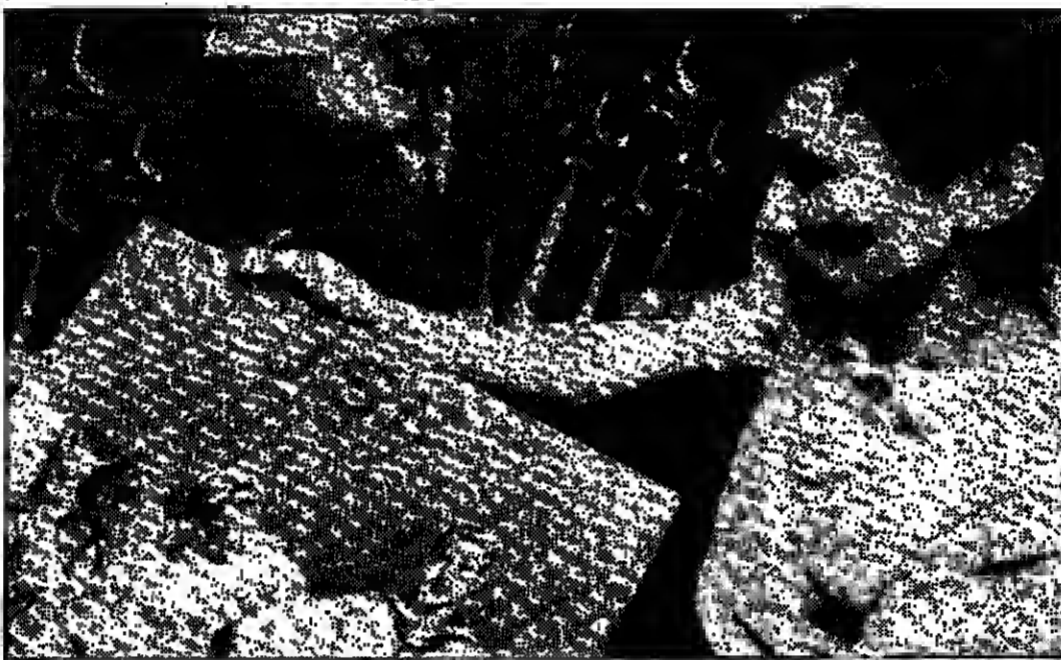
An impartial Indian, (Name and address supplied).

Beware of social parasites

SIR: Referring to Chief Minister of Kerala E.K. Nayanar's appeal for funds for Perumun train disaster victims, I feel pity for those Malayalees who made a big issue out of a humanitarian call for help.

Nayanar's efforts to raise some funds for the needy is praiseworthy and the sudden withdrawal of the appeal due to pressure from some people is sad.

When Nayanar requested people to remit funds, directly to the Finance Ministry in Kerala, the only people who got upset were the ones who were in the past deeply involved in "collection of funds" and other "social welfare activities."



Japan's Self Defence Forces has many posters to attract young people all over Japan. (Reuters wirephoto)

Japan's Army struggles to get the right stuff

By Nao Nakanishi

TOKYO, (Reuters): Japan's military can afford increasingly complex technology but finds it hard to scrape the barrel to get new soldiers.

"It has always been difficult to get enough people but the situation is getting worse," said Takeshi Ozawa, a staff department director at the Defence Agency.

The agency is trying to improve some of the more Spartan conditions at its base. But, said Ozawa in an interview: "Young people... are less prepared to live in a military base with thousands of other soldiers, where privacy is limited and they have to put up with less comfort."

Japanese military experts said the Japan Self Defence Forces (JSDF) have always had a negative image in the country's recent history.

At the end of World War II, a devastated and war-weary Japan agreed it would renounce war and never rebuild its own Army. The JSDF was created in 1954 as a volunteer Army for home defence.

By Tony Czuczka

GENEVA, (AP): Settlement talks between Iran and Iraq starting today are only one way in which Geneva this week will bolster its "city of peace" tradition reaching back more than a century.

Yesterday Greek and Turkish factions from Cyprus opened two days of meetings in a new attempt to resolve the divided island's political future.

Both sets of talks are brokered by the United Nations, which has its European base at the former League of Nations building, Switzerland, in keeping with its strict neutrality, is not a UN member.

The heavy UN focus is also likely to overshadow a third major meeting on the city's neutral ground: a US-Soviet review of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, whose outcome could affect superpower arms reduction talks.

The "Geneva spirit" saw a renaissance this year with the completion of a US-Soviet treaty scrapping intermediate-range missiles — the first true disarmament treaty in 16 years — and the signing of a UN-backed accord setting a Soviet troop pullout from Afghanistan. Those agreements took years to complete, a fate that may

"Nobody really wants to work for the Self Defence Forces unless they have to," said Tetsuo Maeda, author of several books on Japan's defence affairs.

Pay is competitive. A young recruit can expect about 110,000 yen (\$850) a month plus bed and board, comparable to the total package for a young graduate starting in a major company.

Money, however, is not bringing in the right people, say some independent experts. Maeda said many youths joined because it was the only job they could get. They could then use their Army training in different skills as a step to a job in big Japanese companies, after serving four to six years.

The agency pays over 4,100 recruiting officers around Japan to employ about 20,000 young soldiers each year to replace those who terminate their service. That is getting near to 10 per cent of the total force, currently 260,000.

Desperate to make the number match, the recruiting officers not only approach high school graduates but check all kinds of unemployment lists, said a former defence agency official, who declined to be named.

Ozawa disagreed that standards were falling. "The quality of the people working for the Self Defence Force is definitely improving compared to 1950s and 1960s," he said.

The independent experts made no comparisons but were pessimistic. "It is definitely not the best of each generation who go to the Self Defence Forces," said Haruo Fuji, another author of books on military matters.

Maeda said the JSDF dilemma was that recruitment standards were falling at the same time as military technology grew in complexity and the United States was putting more pressure on Japan to play a larger role in its own defence. In the past decade defence spending has doubled.

The debate over the quality of the JSDF was raised in public last month when only one sailor from the crew jumped into the water to rescue people after a Navy submarine collided with a pleasure boat, killing 30 people.

Survivors of the accident told the national press that sailors on the submarine deck just stood watching them in the water until other boats came to pick them up.

Heavy negotiation schedule highlights Geneva's role

beckon the Iran-Iraq talks, called to settle points of conflict after both sides accepted a ceasefire in their eight-year war.

And many reconciliation bids have failed since the city began earning its special reputation 116 years ago with the settlement of a controversy arising from the American civil war.

In that dispute, the United States was seeking reparations for damages inflicted on its ships by a British-armed frigate that was sailing for the secessionist Confederate forces.

The United States and Britain agreed to international arbitration, and a Geneva tribunal ruled in 1872 that Britain should pay the United States \$15.5 million in damages.

A plowshare made from the swords of American naval officers was put in the city hall to symbolise Geneva's international mediating role.

Nine years earlier, the Red Cross idea was launched by Henry Dunant, a Genevan, after he witnessed the horrors of a battle between French and Austrian troops. The International Red Cross now is based in Geneva.

Hopes were high in 1919 when Geneva was chosen to host the League of Nations. US President Woodrow Wilson, the prime mover behind establishing the League, favoured Geneva because its association with John Calvin and other Protestants appealed to his Presbyterianism.

In the crisis-prone 1930s, the League could do little against Adolf Hitler's rise to power in Germany or Italy's war in Ethiopia, and it collapsed in World War II.

But the United Nations made Geneva its European centre in 1946. Most UN-affiliated agencies are headquartered here, from the World Health Organization to the International Telecommunication Union.

Arms control issues have been widely discussed in various venues in Geneva, but the only true global disarmament treaty to date is the 1972 biological arms ban. Efforts to ban all chemical weapons and nuclear tests have gone on for years.

Despite the limited successes, Washington and Moscow have extolled the Geneva spirit since the first summit between US

It was quite natural that these "professional collectors" lost a very good opportunity to make a fast buck, because of the call for direct remittance.

No intellectual in Kuwait thinks that Nayanar violated any regulations on finance. Nayanar is noble man who suffered for India's independence, and sacrificed everything including land and house. Beware of social parasites.

A reader, (Name and address supplied).

Palestinian state

SIR: In 1948, the state of Israel was created by the British mandate. It was the brain-child of the British empire of that time.

The Jews from all over the world not only settled down in this state but also occupied Palestine.

After the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, the Israelis advanced further and occupied more lands. This was their expansionist policy. All the Palestinians were made homeless and landless.

In 1988, the situation has improved. The Palestinians can now fulfil their dream of having

a motherland. King Hussein of Jordan took a bold and intelligent step by severing legal and administrative links with the West Bank enabling the Palestinians to proclaim government-in-exile, open PLO offices in various countries to work as their diplomatic missions and ultimately proclaim an independent state.

The efforts exerted by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat should be applauded.

R.J. Saldanha Prabhu, Satat.

Number of stray cats growing

SIR: I like to draw your attention to the ever growing number of stray cats in Kuwait.

I vividly remember, about 40 years ago when a large number of donkeys and dogs wandered about in the streets, but the government quickly took care of the problem.

For many years there were no stray animals, but now the problem seems to recur in the form of cats. Many cats cannot even get a drink of water during the hot season. Young boys in groups with dogs chase the cats and kill them. Some hit the cats with stones and bottles, and kittens are dumped in garbage



bins and pits.

I love cats and I have found out that many cats and kittens have infectious diseases and become blind. This is harmful to children.

On my part, I am taking sufficient care of all the cats around my apartment, but the plight of others is creating concern. I hope this will prompt the government once again to launch a programme for the eradication of stray animals. Social organisations could also lend a helping hand.

Mrs A. Lawrence, Shaab.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

New detente lowers public concern

US no longer worried about Soviet military threat

By Charlotte Salkowski

WASHINGTON: Americans are no longer as worried about the Soviet military threat as they once were. The "new detente" with Moscow has conspicuously lowered public concern.

But as Democratic nominee Michael Dukakis and his running mate Lloyd Bentsen campaign for the White House, they will seek to capitalize on a new nuance in the American mood. Polls point to a growing view that American security is as much a question of economics as military strength and that the danger to the United States of losing out economically to Japan and other countries is greater ultimately than the Soviet threat.

Hence, Governor Dukakis' unrelenting stress on jobs and Senator Bentsen's experience in the field of trade and finance could be important factors in the election, say political observers.

"Foreign policy is being redefined in a way that brings it into the domestic arena as much as I can remember," says Kevin Phillips, a conservative Republican and publisher of the American Political Report. "So there's an overlapping of the new foreign policy with basic domestic issues."

Trade Political analysts agree that foreign policy is not pivotal in an election unless there is a war or threat of war, or unless the candidates take extreme, polarizing positions on issues. Neither is the case in 1988. But voters are voicing concern about trade, fairness, and a perceived economic threat from abroad.

Asked in a recent Gallup poll about their potential concerns for the future, 27 per cent of the respondents said they were "very concerned" about a military conflict. But the figures rose to 40 per cent when people were queried about concern over the growth of the foreign investment in the US, 50 per cent on loss of jobs, and 40 per cent on the decline in the quality of American products.

Andrew Kohut, president of the Gallup Organization, calls this a "new twist" on the foreign policy front. Whereas the Soviet



Michael Dukakis

military threat once loomed as the major foreign policy issue, he notes, there has been a "momentous change" in attitudes toward the Soviet Union.

"The success of the Reagan administration in terms of disarmament and the new detente with the Russians has taken away one of the Republican chips in recent years," Kohut says. Opinions about foreign policy usually divided the Democrats, he adds, but they're not being divided this year, because "it's not a salient issue."

Some 45 per cent of Americans today have a "positive attitude" toward the Soviet government, Kohut says. Eleven years ago only 11 per cent did.

Attitude

"If that opinion sticks and Americans continue to have a more favourable attitude, that will affect a whole range of issues — defence spending, US troops in Europe, and so on."

While foreign policy may not be a central issue in the campaign, there is no doubt the Dukakis-Bentsen team will come under attack for its lack of diplomatic experience. Republican challenger George Bush is expected to continue highlighting his immense experience in foreign policy posts, including US ambassador to the United Nations and China and director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

But political observers suggest that it will be the character, personality, and temperament of the two presidential contenders more than the specific issue of experience that will determine public judgment in this area. Harry Truman did not have foreign policy experience. Nor did Jimmy Carter. Ronald Reagan also lacked credentials

and waged the 1980 campaign the image of a "tinger-happy cowboy."

"Experience in the final analysis will not be critical," says Everett C. Ladd, executive director of the Roper Centre for Public Opinion Research. "It will be the substance of what is conveyed, such as strength with respect to representing the country and a sense of self-assurance."

Except in dramatic instances where the country is engaged in a war — as in Vietnam in 1972 — foreign policy in presidential elections is more a matter of "national feelings," of how a candidate will manage the national interest and articulate that interest, says Dr Ladd. In 1984, he points out, Reagan was criticized on specific foreign policy failures, including Central America and Beirut, but he conveyed the image of a "strong articulator of the national position that transcended specific actions."

Vulnerable Dukakis should not be too vulnerable on foreign policy, says Fred Greenstein, Princeton biographer of Dwight Eisenhower, because voters respond most to the question of war and peace and the governor's blandness does not come across as "flaky."

For all of George Bush's experience, he too carries liabilities, including his association with an often-maligned Reagan foreign policy and his difficulty in shedding an image of "wimpiness."

The Iran-Contra scandal above all is expected to emerge as a campaign issue, say Democratic and Republican analysts.

"Iran-Contra remains the pivotal event in the Reagan administration that will determine whether Bush gets elected," says Kohut. "People do want to forget Iran-Contra, but it undermined a fragile confidence in government and the administration... Reagan has not recovered and Bush continues to deal with the legacy of Iran-Contra, Noriega, etc. It's all indicative of one thing to people — things aren't right in Washington."

Although Bush has repeatedly responded to questions about Iran-Contra, GOP operatives think he has not put the issue behind him.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1580 — Spain invades Portugal under Duke of Alva, who defeats supporters of Don Antonio at battle of Alcantara near Lisbon and enables Spain to double her colonial empire.
- 1718 — French immigrants found city of New Orleans in Louisiana.
- 1828 — Uruguay declares independence from Spain.
- 1860 — British and French troops take Tientsin in war with China.
- 1883 — Volcano erupts in Dutch East Indies, creating tidal wave that kills 36,000; France obtains protectorate over Annam and Tonkin in Indochina.
- 1896 — Major powers draw up revised plan for Crete which would place it under Christian governor, and plan is approved by Turkey.
- 1941 — British and Soviet troops invade Iran following Shah's refusal to reduce number of resident Germans.
- 1960 — Independent African states open conference at Leopoldville; Communist Party manifesto in Soviet Union condemns dogmatism of China's Mao Tse-Tung.
- 1965 — Massive avalanche roars down from glacier in Swiss Alps, burying 108 people at hydroelectric construction project.
- 1972 — China casts its first veto in UN Security Council — to bar Bangladesh from membership in United Nations.
- 1973 — UN Security Council votes condemnation of Israel for what it calls "premeditated air attack" on Lebanese villages.
- 1978 — Chinese and Vietnamese forces clash in Friendship Pass area on border between the two nations.
- 1987 — Turkish security forces detain 79 armed Iranians who crossed into Turkey on way to Iraq.

CINE ROUND-UP FROM BOMBAY

by Firoze Rangoonwalla

Special to the
Arab Times

Tough juggling act for Sinha and Babbar

Mixing show business and politics

IT appears that the sad & sorry experience of Amitabh Bachchan and Mithun in politics has not made their colleagues any wiser. Two stars who have been toying with the idea and hobnobbing with politicians are Raj Babbar and Shatrughan Sinha. They are on the verge of jumping into the "cesspool," as Bachchan once described it.

Two factors make their task doubly difficult. One is that they have chosen to join the opposition, which means flowing against the tide of the ruling party. Secondly they are both quite busy with several films on hand, which means that with one foot each in two boats, smooth sailing is out of question.

Sinha has already started feeling the pinch of siding with the opposition, especially his support of the newly elected leader V.P. Singh. Sinha's art film *Antarjali* Yatra made by Bengali Gautam Ghose has become a clear victim of this. The film was completed, it was blocked by the Calcutta censor board on the flimsy pretext that



Raj Babbar: politics affecting his show-biz career

it advocated "sati", when actually the film protests against such outdated practices of women being sacrificed for the sake of men.

When the censor objections were brought to the notice of the press the film was quickly cleared. It was entered for the National Awards. But here again, politics came into play. Some jury members exerted their pressure and the top-most

award went to the Assamese film *Halodhia* though it was much inferior to *Antarjali*, which was only given the best Bengali film award and little else. Sinha of course had not a ghost of a chance as best actor, though he had accepted the small film in that hope.

Game
When the film was to be entered in leading world festivals, the all mighty N.F.D.C. stepped in to play its own game. Ironically the film has been financed by the Corporation itself. Yet Sinha's presence in it was like a red rag to a bull. They entered it in a "certain section" of the Cannes festival. When the Tashkent fete authorities heard of the film they insisted on *Antarjali* being entered for competition. But the N.F.D.C. offered stiff resistance and stuck to its first choice, the Kannada film *Tabarana Kanne*. Fortunately, Tashkent remained firm and at the last moment *Antarjali* became a competing entry. And the result? It won the top most award of the Golden Semur.

whereas *Tabarana* would not have had a chance. Due to the eleven-hour hassles, neither Gautam Ghose nor Shatrughan Sinha could attend the festival. Some petty official of N.F.D.C. received the award. In contrast, a third-rate film like *Panchwati* had seven delegates at the festival. Sinha's absence at Tashkent despite his express desire, to go has become quite a talking point in the film & political circles.

Sinha was quoted by the press as saying: "I wanted to go to Tashkent, as it would be a glorious moment of a lifetime. I was not informed of *Antarjali*'s entry. I contacted N.F.D.C., and when I went to Delhi, I got in touch with the Festival directorate, but their response was cool. The managing director of N.F.D.C. assured me that she would do something. But for five crucial days they did not even bother to phone me. My request was kept pending till the festival was over."

Gautam Ghose cannot enter the controversy because he has been financed by the N.F.D.C. and they can still block his film. For example, the Hindi version *Mahayatra* is being held up for unspecified reasons. In his telegram to Sinha, however Ghose wrote: "Keep up the fight!"

Sinha has boldly declared that he was deliberately boycotted because of his political views, and the N.F.D.C. did not want him to gain popularity in U.S.S.R. Otherwise, his visit could have been easily arranged along with the sixty Indian delegates, who attended the festival many of them without any connection with the films shown.

Sinha has a soft corner for V.P. Singh and does not hesitate to admire him. Moreover, Sinha has made full plans to enter politics from Bihar. This is his native province and lakhs of Biharis love him. When he tours the region, huge crowds follow him



Opposition politician V.P. Singh flanked by the two political hopefuls Shatrughan Sinha (left) and Raj Babbar.

everywhere and V.P. type security has to be maintained. Sinha wants to gain from this and establish a foothold. He plans initially to hold charity shows and collect funds for the flood-ravaged people. Then he will conduct a mass contact programme in which opposition leaders may participate and speak. But Sinha knows all too well that the opposition parties also have many black sheep. Will he be able to keep them at bay, with his frank nature and blunt speech? Or will he make more enemies?

In spite of all this, Shatru has not lost his sense of humour. He is constantly cracking jokes in very down-to-earth language. He says his name itself stands for "enemy", so he can't help fighting evil and nonsense. He told journalists that he wants to do public service as an enlightened artist. He is not crazy about fighting elections or getting a chair. We teased him whether he aimed at becoming Chief Minister. He caught his own ears with *arre nahin baba*. But he added mischievously that the Bihar government starts doing some work only when he goes there. Shatru is also very busy with his films. In case he is a flop in

politics, he can always return to his earlier career especially as he does not insist on being the romantic hero, like Amitabh. He has already switched to character roles as in *Khumsaar*. He has taken on some 45 films and is refusing new offers every day. How will he find enough time for politics? Any one field is bound to suffer. This is not the case with Raj Babbar, who has fewer films on hand, due to his recent flops.

Claims

Babbar has been close to V.P. Singh right from the time the leader separated from the Congress party. He attends all of Singh's meetings and processions, and looks after him during his Bombay visits. He is a part of the Jan Morcha movement like producers Atmaram, Vijay Anand and some stars. It has been reported that Babbar even organised his own procession in Agra and tried to blow his own trumpet. These seem to indicate of his foray into active politics, but when talking to the press, he claims like Sinha, to be interested in only the service aspect and not the struggle for chairs. Consequently he is leading his support to the "right leader."

Babbar also claims that he has signed 35 films of which 25 are being actively shot. Whatever the actual number, he is constantly accused of neglecting his film work whenever there is the call of politics. But he denies this vehemently. Moreover, he had to give up certain films due to his political affiliation, especially films made by government supporters with public money, or those in which his co-stars were people like Amitabh or Rajesh Khanna, from the Congress party.

A bigger danger faced by Babbar is that his films may be boycotted on T.V. One of his old starters due for a Sunday telecast was pushed aside because he was the star. Producers could be deterred from signing him on. He may not get any work in T.V. films or serials and he could never attempt producing a serial, like Rajesh Khanna who did so with the poor stuff *Aadha Sach*, *Aadha Jhooth*. Even B.R. Chopra's marathon serial *Mahabharat* is said to be falling in the danger zone as Babbar plays an important part in it. With so many problems, why can't stars choose any one field... either cinema or politics?

Kamal Haasan: brains plus brawn

By C.V. Aravind

KAMAL HAASAN: The one-time chubby-cheeked, pug-nosed child star, is today the blue-eyed boy of the South Indian screen.

He is one of the most versatile performers around, one of the few brainy guys in a field where brainless wonders abound. The actor, who in his greener years had not cared to sort the chaff from the wheat, almost found his career going awry at one stage.

In recent times, however, Kamal has consolidated his position and, despite being one of the most sought-after stars in the South, rarely takes on more than one film at a time. His commitment to his career is total and with his legion of fans standing steadfastly by him, success has become his constant companion.

With his handsome looks and his tough physique carefully maintained thanks to a strict diet and exercise, Kamal is the perfect choice for all those tough he-man roles.

He has just finished shooting for one such role in *Sare Samaharam* and is awaiting the release of his mentor Balachander's *Unnai Mudiyum Thambi* in which he plays a role close to his heart.

Won
Kamal has just won his eleventh Filmfare award (including a Hindi one), this time for a finely-etched performance in the silent film *Pashupativaram* (Kannada). Kamal's triumphs include winning the national best actor award twice — the second one was his portrayal of a mafia Don in the film *Nayakan* regarded as his career-best. Kamal treasures his Filmfare



Kamal Haasan: one of the few brainy guys in a field of brainless wonders

award for the Hindi film *Sagar*. Though he has had a lean trot in Hindi films, he is very likely to do a film for K.C. Bokadia. Kamal is one actor who never fights shy of the press and is ever eager to exchange ideas and views with members of the fourth estate.

"I was baptised into cinema at a very early age and did my first film *Kaladhar Kannana* when I was barely five years old. I won the National Award for the best child actor for this film.

Later I did a number of good roles in films like *Ananda Jothi*," recalls Kamal. As often happens with child stars, film-makers dropped Kamal

when he began to sprout whiskers as adolescence set in.

Undeterred by this reverse and with some dance training, he soon set up shop as a dance assistant.

He caught the eye of one of the most gifted directors in Tamil cinema, K. Balachander, who groomed him and honed his talents. Balachander cast his protegee in a number of films like *Arangetram*, *Sollathana*, *Ninaik-kiren*, *Apoorva Ragangal* and *Aval Oru Thodarkathai*.

Breaks

"One of my significant breaks came to me in Bharathi Raja's *Pathinaru Vayadhinile* in which I played the totally degenerated role of a village idiot in love with the local beauty," reminisces Kamal.

Though I had to literally sweat it out this character gave me an opportunity to show my versatility and range, and this film proved to be a turning point in my career," Kamal later played a psychopath in Bharathi Raja's *Sigappu Rojakkal* — the runaway success of his film made him one of the safest bets at the box-office. Since then he has given the

industry some of its biggest hits in films like *Varamayin Niram Sivappa*, *Maro Charithra* (Telugu), *Sakalakavallavan*, *Khaliki Chaital*, *Oru Kalathiyin Diary*, and *Pannagai Manasu*.

Kamal turned producer with his hundredth film *Raja Parvai* where he played a blind violinist who wins the love of a Christian girl. Says Kamal, *Raja Parvai* directed by Singitham Srinivasa Rao was an aesthetically satisfying film but collections were not on par with expectations.

Surpassed

Two films where the actor surpassed his past performances were the recent *Nayakan* and *Pashupativaram*. The former film superbly directed by Mani Ratnam traced the life of a mafia don. Kamal turned in a sterling characterisation as the ageing don who eventually comes to grief.

Pashupativaram, a throw-back to the days when films were silent, was an entertainer all the way. Kamal played an unemployed youth with the charming Amala providing an apt foil.

This film, which had humorous sequences juxtaposed with scenes depicting home-truths, elicited in all its dubbed versions too. Kamal says, "This film was a once in a lifetime effort."

I doubt whether I will ever get another opportunity to do a similar role. When making the film we found that any dialogue would have been an impediment and not an asset."

Much was expected from Kamal after he made his bow in Hindi films, with the all-time grosser *Ek Deje Ke Liye* a remake of the Telugu blockbuster, *Maro Charithra*.

But later, barring films like *Sasam Teri Kasam*, and *Sagar*, most of his other Hindi films failed or met with a lukewarm response.

Kamal's track record in Telugu has been much better. He was seen to advantage in Vishwanath's *Sagara Samamam* and *Swathi Mathyam*.

He reveals that he will be starring in movie mogul Rama Naidu's forthcoming production which will be an extravaganza with lavish sets and top stars.

Behind the screen

After all his affairs and flings, Mithun now wants to present a public image of a clean family man. That is why he suddenly decided to celebrate his son's fourth birthday for the first time. Mithun presented an expensive electronic toy car to son Mimob and posed happily with his wife Yogeta and the boy. The party at the Sun-N-Sand hotel was a surprise to many guests and journalists, since there were also three other parties on the same night, which Mithun would have loved to attend!

Veteran eccentric Raj Kumar is actually quite a clever chap. Stories of his crazy antics are spread all over the place thereby ensuring that he is always in the news. Perhaps the antics are committed for that reason. At a recent birthday celebration of a director on the sets a knife was needed to cut the cake, and R. Kumar gallantly came forward with a sword and gave it to the birthday 'boy'. Let us hope the actor

does not cross swords with the same director before the film is completed.

Govinda is doing his utmost to supersede Mithun as a dancing star and lead him in the popularity stakes. *Hatya* was sent to the Tashkent fete with the aim of winning Russian fans too. But Govinda faces a new big danger in Javed Jaffery. Remember *Meri Jung*? Just one break-dance by Javed was talked about for months. And there is more to come.

Randhir Kapoor was not sober even when 18 video cassettes of his father's films were released. But once he was saddled with the task of directing *Heena*, all his energies and thoughts have been re-routed on the right path. Let's hope the task of interviewing and screen-testing new girls for the role does not make him stray again.

Romances in disguise will never end. Now, Dharmendra's other son Bobby Deol is



Mithun presents a clean family image with wife Yogeta and son Mimob.



Neelam: carrying on with Dharmendra's second son Bobby

carrying on with Neelam (of Govinda and Chunky fame). But it may spoil the girl's career as producers are terribly scared of married stars. And Bobby has still to make his career, apart from facing papa

Dharm's anger. And finally a tailpiece: Who gives the most embarrassing parties in tinsel town? The answer, in a chorus is Subhash Ghai.



A tipsy Randhir Kapoor at the ceremony launching his father's old films.

CENTRE OF
ENGLISH STUDIES

BETTER ENGLISH — BRIGHTER FUTURE

Best service in
Kuwait

- ★ Fully qualified British teachers
- ★ Computer-assisted language learning
- ★ Segregated classes
- ★ Special timings
- ★ Classes for children from the age of 11
- ★ Library
- ★ Comfortable, smart premises

Next course begins
3rd September
Registration from 27th August

Timings: 9.30 - 12.00 noon
5.00 - 7.30 pm
Telephone: 2515512/2533204/
2533227

AL MULLA CALL TAXI

REQUIRES
CALL TAXI DRIVERS

We have vacancies for experienced bilingual (English/Arabic) drivers.

Candidates should have valid CALL TAXI driving licence, and a thorough knowledge of areas in Kuwait. Salary plus attractive commission will be paid to the successful candidates. Interested candidates with valid transferable visa should call in person at:

AL MULLA CALL TAXI

Sour Street, Kuwait
Tel. 2435495/2433710 for an interview

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



HUMOUR

More of the world's worst failures

The most lines

forbidden by one actor
IN one of the great stage performances of our time Paul Greenwood breathed new life into a familiar old play by forgetting almost every line of his part at the Barbican Theatre, London, on July 24, 1984.

At the opening night of The Happiest Days of Your Life he single-handedly transformed an otherwise predictable show. The great actor strode confidently onto the stage and placed his golf bag on the table. It immediately slid off, signalling that we were in the presence of a master.

After saying a few lines correctly, perhaps to show what a dull evening it would be without his intervention, he began rummaging in his pockets so he could "take a note" as the script demanded.

It all began when his propelling pencil didn't have any lead and then his pen didn't have any ink and then he realised there was total silence on stage while he was supposed to be speaking.

Now elegantly flustered, his face was suffused with the finest expressions of blankness ever seen on the London stage. He launched into a bravura selection of original lines that would have come as a great surprise to the playwright.

In fact two he varied his performance and began saying everybody else's lines, whereupon he turned to the audience and said: "I'm sorry, we'll have to stop because I'm talking nonsense up here. You see, there was no lead in my pencil." When a colleague ad-libbed that "this has always been your problem" it brought the house down.

By act three the excellent Greenwood was completely liberated from the plot. "Shall I start again?" he asked the enthralled audience. "Yes," they roared back, wishing to bask anew in such an original performance.

One theatre critic took this opportunity to review the prompter who was "such a feature of the evening," while The Times hailed it as "memory loss on a grand scale."

The worst opening sentence of a novel

NO one has done more to encourage our sort of novelist than Professor Scott Rice of the San Jose State University. In

Last week we published extracts from Stephen Pile's book of 'heroic failures,' which records the worst performances in various fields. We continue with some more instances of human achievement supplied by the author in his forthcoming book 'The Return of Heroic Failures.'

1983 he launched the Bulwer-Lytton contest for the worst opening sentence to a novel and was instantly flooded with 10,000 entries from 50 countries.

He started the contest "to fill a need." Most literary contests, he said, are inherently unfair, favouring as they do talent, sensibility and intelligence. "They are callously neglectful of the mediocre masses, those who might be authors if they had any craft, vision or message."

The contest was named after the 19th century British novelist, Edward Bulwer-Lytton, in whose work a glass of beer is always "a medicinal beverage" and a bedroom is "somnambular accommodation" and a man lighting his pipe is described as "applying the Promethean spark to his tube."

Just a few examples show the high standard of entrant in this now annual event. Some are domestic dramas: "The variety of quirks, ailments and miscellaneous disfigurements that can strike the average supermarket cart is truly amazing," she said.

Others set a mood: "It was autumn, and the fog hung over the old house as it did nearly every autumn (with the exception of the previous year, which had been incredibly sunny) like damp gauze on the soldier's wound, except there was no blood, as he stopped the car at the kerb and gazed thoughtfully towards the house."

Yet others leaped into the ever-popular spy genre:

"It came to him in a cocaine rush as he took the Langley exit that if Aldrich had told Filpov about Hancock only Tulligan could have known that the photograph which Wagner had shown to Maximov on the jolting S-bahn was not the photograph of Kessler that Bradford had found at the dark, sinister house in the Schillerstrasse the day that Straub told Percival that the man on the bridge had not been Aksakov but Pawstovsky, which meant that it was not

Kleist but Kruger that Cheren-sky had met in the bleak, wintry Grunewald and that, therefore, only Frau Epp could have known that Muller had followed Droyens to the steamy aromatic cafe in the Beethovenstrasse where he had told Burger that Todorov had known since the Liebermann affair that McIntyre had not met Stoltz at the Goltzer Bahnhof but instead had met Sommer in the cavernous Anhalter Bahnhof."

Anyone wishing to study the entries in more detail is recommended to read It was a Dark and Stormy Night, the uplifting volume in which Professor Rice reprints the whole lot

The worst opera programme notes

THE Genoa Opera Company staged a memorable production of Bizet's Carmen in 1981. Even more memorable were the programme notes explaining the plot.

ACT ONE: Carmen, a cigar-makeress from a tobacco factory loves Don Jose of the mounting guard. Carmen takes a flower from her corsets and lances it to Don Jose. (Duet: "Talk me of my mother.") There was noise inside the tobacco factory and revolting cigar-makeresses burst onto the stage. Carmen is arrested and Don Jose is ordered to mount guard on her but she subdues him and lets her escape.

ACT TWO: The Tavern. Carmen sings (Aria: "The Si-trums tinkling"). Enter two smugglers ("Ho, we have in mind a business"). Enter Escamillo, a Bulls fighter. Carmen refuses to penetrate because Don Jose has liberated her from prison. He just now arrives. (Aria: "Stop here who comes"). But here are the bugles singing his retreat. Don Jose will leave and draw his sword. Called by Carmen's shrieks the two smugglers interfere with her. Jose is bound to desert. Final Chorus: "Opening Sky Wandering Life."

ACT THREE: A rocky land-

scape. Smugglers chatter. Carmen sees her death in the cards. Don Jose makes a date with her for the next Bulls fight.

ACT FOUR: A Place in Seville. Procession of Bullfighters. The roaring of Bulls is heard in the arena. Escamillo enters (Aria and chorus: "Toreador, Toreador. All hail the Bulls of a toreador"). Enter Don Jose (Aria: "I be smooch you"). Carmen repels him. She wants to join with Escamillo now, chaired by the crowd. Don Jose stabs her. (Aria: "Oh, rupture, rupture"). He sings: "Oh, my subduative Carmen."

The most rejection slips

JOHN CREASEY made an important contribution to world literature over a period of seven years. He showed early promise when his first thriller, The Men Who Died Laughing, came back from the publishers almost immediately. Three months later he completed a school novel, Our Glorious Term, and this proved even less popular. His third book, The Captain of the Fifth, was completely unacceptable, as were The Mysterious Mr Rocco, Mystery at Manby House, and The Flying Turks.

When Dazzle and the Red Bombers was returned the great man of letters was getting into his stride.

By 1925 he had received 743 rejection slips before getting his first book published and losing all interest for us. One possible reason for his achievement is that he once claimed to have written two of these books in a week and still spend half a day playing cricket.

The dud book fair

A RECORD number of visitors poured into the 1982 York Book Fair, probably because its central feature was the first Dud Books of All Times exhibition. Never before had such a powerful collection of completely unsaleable volumes been gathered together under one roof.

The imposing entrance to the Assembly Rooms was specially decked out for the occasion with vivid wallpaper, fairy lights and a dayglo-pink sign-board.

The most popular book on show was The List of Stop Cocks in the Liver Building, Liverpool 1912. This was closely followed by a signed copy of The Philosophy of Elbert Hubbard.

Even before the exhibition opened, one natural history expert snapped up copies of both The Common Teasel as a Carnivorous Plant, and Ostrich Egg-Shell Cups of Mesopotamia in Ancient and Modern Times.

The early history of sanitation was fully represented by such work as The Law Relating to Sewers and Drains 1904, while the travel section included Uganda For a Holiday by Sir Frederick Treves, and The Little I Saw of Cuba by Burr McIntosh. In the biography and memoir department, The Mother of Goethe made a happy companion to I Was Hitler's Aunt. Heroes and Heroines of Libya was a huge hit, as was Jokes Cracked by Lord Aberdeen, in a tartan cover. The only disappointment was that the promised copy of The Romance of Leprosy by E. Mackerchar did not materialise.



CAPE COD — How bad was the ocean pollution along the East Coast recently? I'll tell you how bad it was. The sharks no longer consider it safe to go into the water.

Perhaps that's an exaggeration. The truth is that the sharks were swimming around, but nowhere near the shore. A submarine picked up on sonar the conversation of a school of sharks about 200 miles off Cape Cod the other day. The sonar operator identified the sharks as Jaws I, Jaws II, Jaws III and Jaws IV.

The transcript that follows has only just been released:

Jaws I: Don't go near Long Island. All the beaches have been turned into cesspools.

Jaws II: Ditto for New Jersey. Every bit of medical garbage known to man has been dumped into the water there, including blood contaminated with AIDS.

Jaws III: How can anyone live like that? Even squid don't poison their own water.

The Art Buchwald Column

Forbidden jaws

Jaws IV: I don't mind eating garbage but I'm not going to swim through the other stuff they're pumping into the sea.

Jaws I: I hear that it is so bad off Far Rockaway that you can get violently sick just by nuzzling your head against a swimmer's leg.

Jaws II: The people are not only releasing raw sewage from the land, but they are pumping it from their boats as well. There is no way we can go near the beach without getting herpes.

Jaws IV: Maybe we shouldn't stay here. The ocean currents could bring the stuff out to where we are now.

Jaws I: I would like to bite the arm off the person responsible for dumping all

the medical swill into the sea.

Jaws II: I would, too, but only if I could hear him scream a lot.

Jaws III: And thrash around in helpless agony ...

Jaws IV: That's all well and good, but what do we do about food? All the marine life in the area is now contaminated. Even the people on the beach are unsafe to eat.

Jaws I: That's outrageous. No one should be permitted to contaminate human beings. They're our meal ticket.

Jaws II: I can't believe that people who would dump all their waste into the sea would make sharks the heroes in the movies. For old times' sake, why don't we take one fast swim into shore and scare them

to death?

Jaws III: We can't scare them if they are not allowed to go into the water.

Jaws IV: I hate to swim in red algae.

Jaws I: Just when we thought it was safe to go into the water we got sucked in by chemical waste. I guess we have to scratch Long Island as a good place for lunch.

Jaws II: It's not just Long Island. The whole ocean tastes funny. I say that all sea creatures pronounce the entire East Coast off limits until people can get their anti-pollution act together.

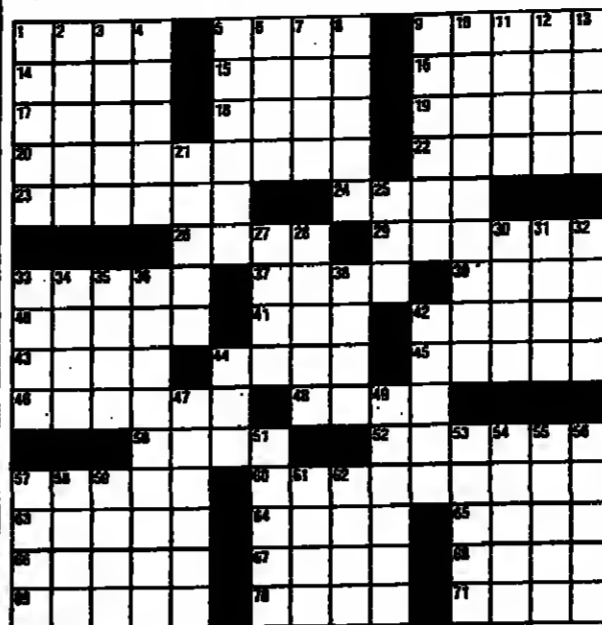
Jaws III: I hear it's not even safe around Martha's Vineyard or Nantucket either.

Jaws IV: Could we be declared an endangered species?

Jaws I: But we are not an endangered species, and these people are throwing all their bilge into the sea just to save money.

Jaws II: And to think people call us sharks. 1988, Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Eskers
- 5 Cathedral part
- 9 Type of fly
- 14 Angela Lansbury Broadway role
- 15 Tend the garden
- 18 Wake-robin, e.g.
- 17 Wicked
- 18 "Like waving — flag"
- 19 Fire up
- 20 Drummer/band leader
- 22 "It was the best of —"
- 23 Plus factor?
- 24 Store sign
- 26 Italian noble family
- 29 School chore
- 33 Weeping woman of myth
- 37 White House office
- 39 — sapiens
- 40 Neutralize
- 41 Ruby, for one
- 42 Actress Black
- 43 Saurel fish
- 44 Links cry
- 45 On the qui vive
- 46 Manage
- 48 Salver
- 50 Stringed toy
- 52 Cinnamon source
- 57 Lincoln Center offering

DOWN

- 2 Put aside
- 3 Be of — to (intend)
- 4 U.S. Grant's foe
- 5 Oscar and Emmy
- 6 Lima's land
- 7 Trickle
- 8 Icelandic sagas
- 9 Chess piece
- 10 Clarinetist/band leader
- 11 Weaver's rig
- 12 Cotton to
- 13 Lemon drinks
- 21 Use a prie-dieu
- 25 In toto
- 27 Deli request
- 28 Chris of the courts
- 30 Rall bird measure
- 32 "— but the lonely heart"

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠A108752 ♠93 ♦A106 ♣A7

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass

3 ♣ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠A108752 ♠93 ♦A106 ♣A7

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass

3 ♣ Pass ?

What action do you take?

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠AQ92 ♠KJ6 ♠K92 ♠QJ8

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 NT Pass 2 ♣ Pass

What action do you take?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠AQ92 ♠KJ6 ♠K108 ♠K109

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 NT Pass 2 ♣ Pass

What action do you take?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠AQ92 ♠KJ6 ♠K92 ♠QJ8

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠AQ2 ♠KJ6 ♠K92 ♠AJ103

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass

What do you bid now?



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

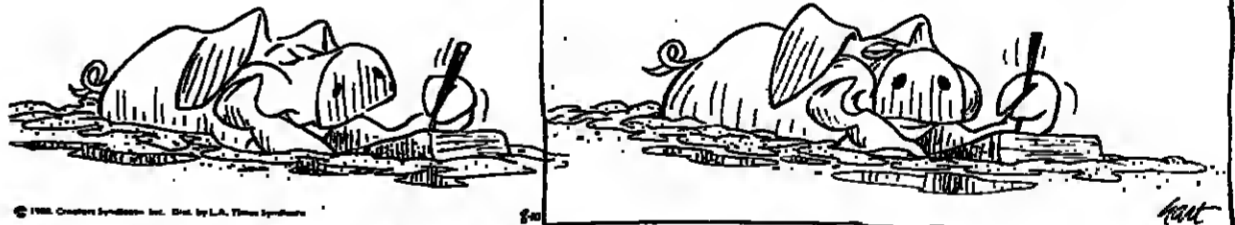


B.C.

By Johnny Hart

YOU CAN CALL ME 'PUDDY-DUD' OR 'FATS' OR 'GARBAGE SNOUT'...

BUT BEING CALLED A 'STICK-IN-THE-MUD' IS WHAT I'M ALL ABOUT.



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You are inclined to ignore warning signals and should pay more attention to them. You should try to be a little less impatient. What you think is a good opportunity is nothing of the kind. Be alert.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You should do what you can to reduce tension. You are a little more vulnerable so try not to get into a situation where you are exposed. You should not rely too much on your powers of persuasion. Be resilient.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You are subject to various influences but by and large all will be well. You should not, however, do anything that could easily go away. The solution to one of your problems is not as simple as first seemed to be the case. Be a little less pessimistic.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)

You will not find it easy to make a choice between alternatives but there is no point in dithering. You will find it easier to put your point of view across. You should make sure you keep your eye very much on the road avoid looking sideways. Be more resilient.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

This is going to be a good day for you only make sure you do not do anything too adventurous. You should try to show a little more goodwill towards someone who is not quite your best friend. Try to take change in your stride. Be reasonable.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You will be able to do something you have long wished to do. Make sure you do not try to take the credit for something you know well you have done. Avoid doing anything that might give rise to confusion. Be prompt.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

This is going to be a pleasant day for you only you must try to avoid making things more complicated for yourself. You should be prepared to take the responsibility for your actions. Do not let a friend down. Be reliable.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Keep your objectives very much in mind. Your personal life will be more intense, but you must also work hard. You will be able to do a friend a great favour and should do so. Be cordial.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You should make sure you do not do anything that you know is not good for your health. Work hard but do not work too long hours. You will have some personal success. Be alert.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

Do not do anything that might be hurtful or give offence. If you do not act swiftly you may well lose a good opportunity. Live and let live. Be more tolerant.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Do not let something you did not mean to reveal slip out by accident. You should try to look at a problem from all angles. Think hard and long before you make up your mind. Be generous.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will be able to have a most pleasant day. Unless you are careful you could well spoil what you have been able to build up slowly. You should not hesitate to have a good laugh at yourself. Be considerate.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

EEC urged to reconsider duty-free ceiling

RIYADH, Aug 24. (OPECNA): The European Economic Community (EEC) has been urged to reconsider its proposed duty-free quota ceiling for 1989 for Saudi petrochemical exports to Western European countries.

Ibrahim Ibn Salamah, chief executive officer of the Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC), said that under the proposal, the kingdom's quota is less than half the 1987 figure.

Products

Under the generalised system of preferences (GSP) the EEC conducts an annual study of products exported to its member countries in a bid to limit competition and to set values and quantities which may be admitted duty-free.

However, Salamah said that the EEC had reduced year by year the amount of SABIC products qualifying for duty-free import, despite the fact that Europe was currently short of petrochemical supplies.

The corporation, which produces plastic resins, liquid petrochemicals and fertilisers, exports many products to European countries, but under the GSP system, only very small quantities are admitted duty-free.

Salamah said that world prices for most petrochemicals, plastic resins and fertilisers had doubled over the past year due to high demand, yet the EEC proposed to reduce by half the value of SABIC's duty-free products.

The corporation hoped that a forthcoming meeting of the EEC foreign ministers would reverse the quota proposal for next year in view of the Community's general economic relations with the Gulf Co-operation Council.

Libya, Tunisia to co-operate in lube oil project

TRIPOLI, Aug 24. (OPECNA): OPEC member Libya and neighbouring Tunisia are to co-operate in a project aimed at refining used lube oils, a Libyan oil executive said today.

Hammouda El Aswad, managing director of the Azzawya Refinery Company, told OPECNA that the project was still in the planning stage.

The Azzawya Refinery, located near here, is currently producing around 30,000 tons of lube oils a year from its blending plant, he said, adding that the output covered domestic needs.

The blending plant of the refinery, which is subsidiary of the Libyan National Oil Company, was turning out 28 kinds of lube oils with motor oil as the prime product, he said.

He disclosed that his company would soon introduce motor oil in cans on which warnings would be printed indicating that the content could be "environmentally unfriendly." He described this as part of a drive to reduce pollution.

His refinery was also producing asphalt at a rate of 100,000 tons a year to meet local demand which has jumped steeply over recent years due to increased road construction in Libya.

Since the country only produced light oils, the asphalt plants at the refinery were being fed with imported heavy crudes, he said.

The Azzawya Refinery, Libya's oldest oil processing facility, came on stream in 1974 and its capacity was increased to 120,000 BPD following an expansion programme in 1977.

'Safety net' for investors

Reliance issue goes public

By M.C. Bose

INDIA'S Reliance Industries representatives, led by S. Natarajan, Secretary of Reliance Industries Limited, India's largest convertible debenture issue, arrived in Kuwait yesterday to introduce the company's latest offer to public and existing shareholders.

The company's issue of Rs 5,160 million convertible debentures carrying 12.5 per cent interest opened on Aug 22 and closes on Aug 31.

Natarajan told the Arab Times Rs 3,000 m worth of preferential allotment is reserved for Reliance shareholders, including non-resident Indians.

Advantage

Natarajan said that the issue is structured to yield the maximum benefit to the investor and the company. He said the company decided on an investor-oriented structure for the issue of Reliance Petrochemicals Limited, because "it entails a distinct advantage over traditional financing with institutional borrowing."

Natarajan said the petrochemicals project was the biggest so far in a string of related ventures successfully launched by Reliance. He said the project is expected to be completed in two years and envisaged production of 60,000 tonnes of the high density polyethylene (HDPE) 60,000 tonnes of monoethylene glycol (MEG) and 100,000 tonnes of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) per year.

He said that to finance the balance requirement, the company will raise a foreign currency loan of Rs 840 million and float Rs 5,160 million worth convertible debentures.

The entitlement of shareholders is a minimum of five debentures for shareholding up to 50 shares. After that, one debenture will be allowed for every additional holding of 10 shares.

Shareholders can also apply for additional debentures at Rs 200 each. Natarajan said Rs 10 from that will be converted into one equity share on allotment. Rs 40 will be converted into equity shares after three to four years, and the rest would be converted in five to seven years.

Consumption

The plant will be located at Hazira in Gujarat. Reliance will invest Rs. 1 billion in the equity capital of the company. The investment is said to be the largest contribution of any promoter in an Indian company.

Natarajan added that per capita consumption of plastics in India is only 0.8 kilos compared with 63 kilos in the US, and two kilos in Africa. At the same time, the gap between supply and demand is widening, he said.

"We are on the threshold of a plastics revolution in India and RPL is well-placed to reap the benefits," Natarajan said.

"Investors in the Reliance Petrochemicals (RPL) issue have a unique safety net," he said. The merchant banking units of three nationalised banks met recently in Bombay to finalise a plan to buy back the Rs 190 portion of the debenture at par from October this year to September 1989.

Conversion

Investors who are not keen on holding on for later conversion can dispose of the Rs 190 portion of the Rs 200 fully convertible debenture while retaining the Rs



Picture shows, from left to right: Bharatkumar Shah, Middle East co-ordinator of Reliance Industries, C S Khanpur, the chairman of NRI Investors Forum Kuwait and S. Natarajan.



Some of those who attended the meeting.

10 share, which is converted at par on allotment.

How far the share price will go is anybody's guess, but it appears that RPL is able to declare a dividend of 30 per cent in the sixth year after allotment of debenture. Applying the average

capitalisation of yield noted for blue chip stocks, the price should prevail in the region of Rs 85 to Rs 100, giving a yield a market price of between 3 and 3.50 per cent.

Natarajan said RPL will have the second largest shareholder

community in the world. The largest is British Gas.

The team organised an investors' conference yesterday at Kuwait Sheraton.

A film of Reliance's proposed plant was shown to a large audience.

World Business Summary

Britain tries to promote trade ties with Iraq

LONDON, Aug 24. (KUNA): Britain's Trade and Industry Minister Tony Newton, will lead the British delegation to the annual Anglo-Iraq commission in Baghdad in November to promote British business there, it was confirmed today. British officials said the visit is part of renewed efforts to help UK companies benefit from trade opportunities arising from the Gulf War ceasefire. The trip coincides with the 25th annual international fair in the Iraqi capital. The announcement came less than two weeks after the Department of Trade and Industry said that it was providing funds to firms wishing to exhibit at the Tehran International Trade Fair next month. Meanwhile, the officials recalled that Britain made credit lines available to Iraq throughout the eight years of the Gulf war, while Baghdad gave Britain "favoured nation" trading status. Forty five British firms will attend the Baghdad fair, nearly twice the number of last year. While in Iraq, the British delegation will discuss prospects for British firms to win large contracts, especially in the post-war reconstruction period. The talks will also cover the possibility of new guaranteed lines of British credit to Baghdad, the officials said. Trading with Iraq dropped during the war with Iran, but now that the fighting is apparently over the Thatcher government is keen to compete with other major industrial nations in winning business there.

British exports to Iraq were 20 per cent higher, at 115 million pounds, in the first three months of 1988. British exports to Iraq dropped from 444 million pounds in 1986 to 267 million pounds last year, with imports dropping from 255 million pounds to 211 million pounds.

American oil prices drop

NEW YORK, Aug 24. (Reuters): US oil prices fell 21 cents a barrel yesterday due to signs of increased OPEC production, and industry analysts predicted that they could slide another 50 cents by the September 20 meeting of OPEC's price monitoring committee. West Texas Intermediate crude oil for October delivery, the US benchmark grade, fell 21 cents to \$15.71 a barrel in futures trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. North Sea Brent blend, the most commonly traded international crude oil, fell 10 cents to \$15.10 a barrel for October delivery. "We are starting to see the effects of rising OPEC production on the market," said Michael Rothman, an oil industry analyst at Merrill Lynch capital markets. Oil prices fell in part because of a Reuters report that Saudi Arabian oil output rose to an estimated 4.6 million barrels per day in the first three weeks of August. Saudi Arabia's official OPEC quota is 4.34 million barrels a day. Rothman said production by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries is running at nearly 19.5 million barrels per day this month, up from a quota of 15.06 million barrels daily that excludes Iraq. Iraq, having unsuccessfully lobbied for a quota equal to Iran's, currently has no OPEC production quota and pumped an estimated 2.65 million barrels a day in July, according to a Reuters survey. Traders expect Iran and Iraq to increase output before the OPEC price committee meets, said Jim Steel, oil analyst at Refco Inc. The meeting, according to a Venezuelan oil official, has been tentatively set for September 20. Steel said crude oil prices could drop to \$15.25 a barrel during the next month.

World banks eager to shed Third World debt

NEW YORK, Aug 24. (AP): Faced with a \$1.2-trillion problem that has been worrying bankers increasingly since 1982, banks from Amsterdam to Tokyo have sharply cut back on new loans to Third World nations, and are seeking ways to limit or eliminate the debt they now hold.

After years of renegotiating lower interest rates and longer repayment terms with the debtor nations, some of the banks are selling off their loans at reduced prices.

Others are swapping them for investments in the debtor countries, writing off uncollectable credits or setting up multi-billion dollar reserves for possible losses on bad loans.

Many of the debtor nations stopped paying back the principal on the loans years ago. They include the three biggest debtors — Brazil, Mexico and Argentina, which together owe about \$360 billion. Mexico ran out of money to pay its foreign creditors in August 1982, unleashing widespread worry about the ability of Third World countries to repay their loans, and now is repaying interest only.

For about a year starting in February 1987, Brazil suspended even interest payments on its debts. Peru has paid practically nothing at all on its \$14-billion debt since July 1985. As a result, most commercial banks are reluctant to put to money. Most debtor nations are not getting any new credits except to help them pay interest on what they already owe.

But the accumulating interest due on old loans keeps on swelling the total Third World debt. In the last year or so it has risen from about \$1 trillion to more

than \$1.2 trillion, according to World Bank figures.

Creditor-banks have adopted various strategies to face the crisis. Over the past few years, the debts of many borrowing countries have been renegotiated collectively by committees of all the creditor banks, working jointly to allow debtor nations more time to pay up.

Measures

Many individual banks have also taken measures on their own. Some have simply written certain debts off as uncollectable and accepted a loss. Others have sold the delinquent debt — at a reduced price — to other creditors. A few have traded in some debts for an investment in a company in the debtor country — a transaction known as a debt-for-equity swap.

A market for trading Third World debt crisis are American, Japanese and British banks. But banks from the Netherlands, Switzerland, France, Italy, Sweden, Hong Kong and other nations are also significantly involved.

Here is how some of them are faring:

United States:

American banks are the biggest Third World creditors. According to a report issued by the US Federal Reserve last month, American commercial banks had \$96 billion in loans outstanding to developing nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

US banks hold about a fifth of the total Mexican and Brazilian foreign debt of more than \$100 billion each, one-sixth of Argentina's \$55 billion external debt, and one-quarter of Venezuela's \$34-billion debt load.

Hundreds of smaller American banks have written off

or sold most or all of their Third World loans, so that nine big US commercial banks now account for about 84 billion of the \$96 billion owed to US lenders.

Citicorp of New York, the biggest American bank and the leading bank in the negotiations with Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Peru, started a trend among these American big lenders in May last year when it set up a \$3-billion reserve for possible losses against its \$13-billion in Third World loans.

Citicorp chairman John S. Reed said then that his bank remains committed to lending to such big debtors as Brazil and Argentina. But in fact, in the past year Citicorp has reduced its Third World loan exposure by about \$2 billion.

In the first six months of 1988 the 13 biggest American banks overall have reduced their exposure by \$1.7 billion, through writeoffs, sales and swaps.

Japan:

According to the Japanese finance ministry's International Finance Bureau, Japanese banks' accumulated loans to developing countries amounted to \$43.5 billion as of the end of 1986, up from 38.5 billion in 1985.

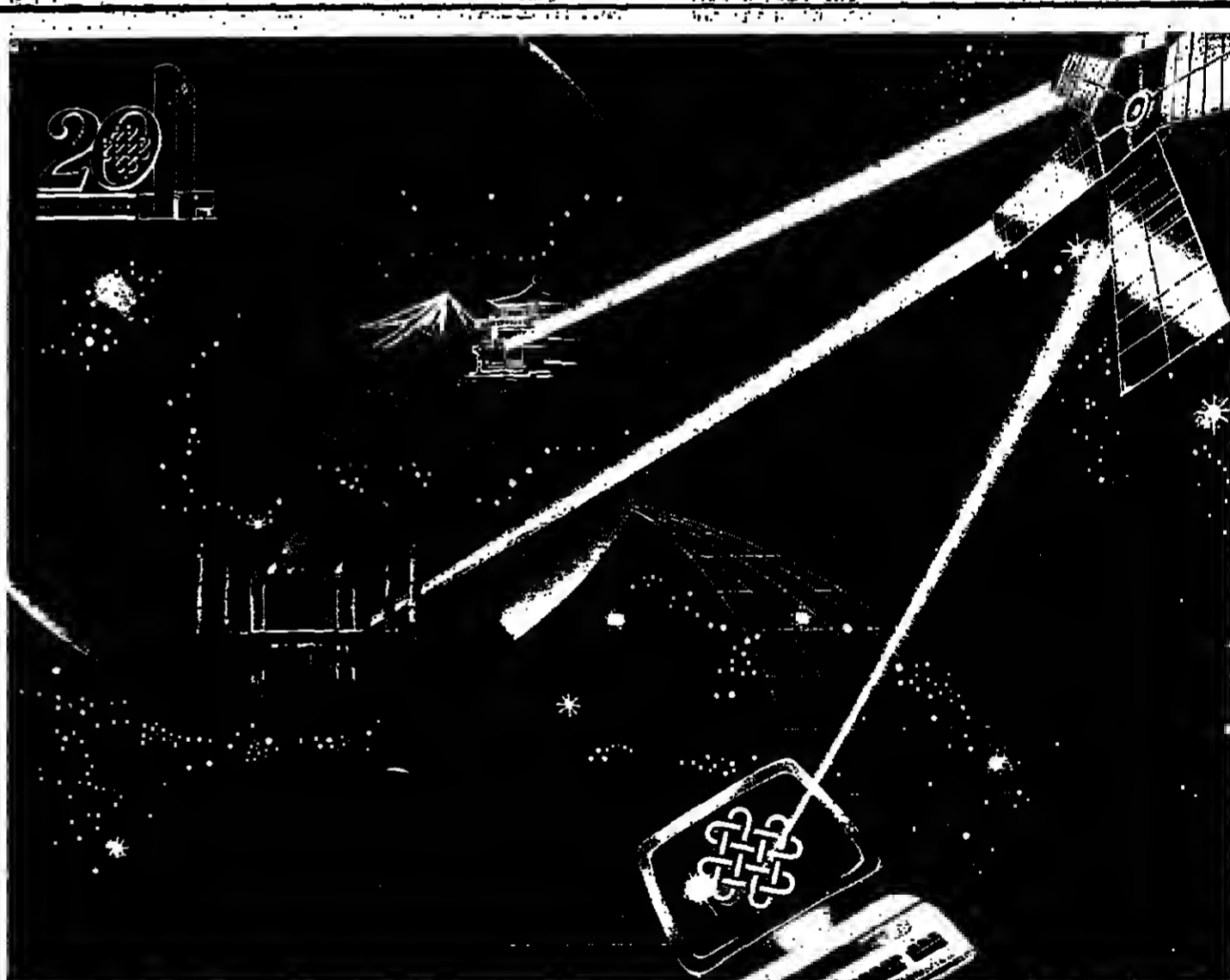
Last year a group of 28 Japanese commercial banks set up a company — called JBA Investment Inc., and based in the British Cayman Islands — to assume part of their outstanding loans to debtor nations. The company clears mounting external debts and uncollectable interest from the books of the 28 banks, whose outstanding loans to debtor nations were estimated at more than \$35 billion as of September 1986.

JBA investment buys the debts at a discount and then tries to

resell them. The participating banks share in any profits from the resale, but JBA absorbs any losses. The banks are allowed to

claim tax deductions on the losses they incur in selling discounted loans to JBA.

(Continued on Page 12)



China may fail to meet grain output targets

BEIJING, Aug 24. (UPI): China may fail to meet crucial grain output targets this year in the wake of severe drought, floods and typhoons battering the world's most populous nation, the China Daily newspaper acknowledged today.

Officials said on Tuesday more than 47 million acres (19 million ha) of farmland across 18 of China's 29 provinces have been damaged by the bad weather and there are indications Beijing may have to increase grain imports this year.

Any output declines are a sensitive issue in China because of memories of past shortages and famines in the nation of more than 1 billion people.

Production

Conservative economic planners regard grain production as the cornerstone of Chinese agriculture and have voiced concern that this vital area has been neglected in the government's sweeping economic reforms.

"It will be very difficult for

China to fulfil the grain production quota set by the state this year in view of the country's present agricultural situation," the paper quoted an official at the National Research Centre for Development of Science and Technology as saying.

The official indicated China's grain yield could be at least 750,000 tons short of the 410-million-ton target for 1988 because of the string of natural disasters, including a monthlong killer heat wave, widespread flooding and several typhoons, that have swept China this year.

Natural disasters were also blamed for China's failure to meet its 400-million-ton grain target in 1987.

But Western agriculture experts said the latest shortfall was expected and that it was unlikely to have any serious impact since grain output is regarded as sufficient to meet nearly all China's needs.

A Chinese official said summer grain output 'scarcely'

equalled last year's harvest and was well below the 1988 quota despite a 1.58 million-acre (639,400-ha) increase in acreage.

"The country now has to depend on its autumn crops to reach its target," the official said. "But this will not be easy, because many of China's agricultural provinces are hit by natural disasters and the area for the growing of autumn crops has been reduced."

Imports

Officials have hinted that the drought and floods may force Beijing to increase its grain imports this year. In the last year, China has nearly doubled its wheat imports from 7.3 million tons to a forecast of 13 million tons in the fiscal year ending June 30.

While the weather has been a major factor in below-target grain harvests in the last two years, another reason for falling output is a lack of interest in growing grain among peasants,

who prefer to cultivate more lucrative cash crops.

"The economic benefits to farmers of producing grain were lower than those for producing other cash crops," the Chinese official said.

Increased

This year, the amount of new land turned over to cash crops has increased by 1.8 million acres (730,000 ha), China Daily said.

Prices of chemical fertilisers, plastic sheeting, pesticides and farm machinery, have soared by 13 per cent this year, further reducing peasants' interest in grain.

"Farmers' motivation for producing grain has suffered as a result of the price hikes," the paper said. "Cultivated land has been given up in some areas of the country."

China, the most populous country on earth with more than 1.07 billion people, must feed 23 per cent of the world's population on just seven per cent of its arable land.

TRANSFERS TO THE FAR EAST With AlAhli Bank of Kuwait

AlAhli Bank enables you to transfer money to the Far East safely and quickly.

Money transfers to the Far East including India, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka can be made in the local currency or in US dollars.

AlAhli Bank of Kuwait Money transfers at competitive rates.

البنك الأهلي الكويتي (ش.م.ك.)
ALAHILI BANK OF KUWAIT (K.S.C.)



LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	200/0
ABBIE LIFE	316.0	
ADT LTD	138.0	
ALD LYONS	416.0	
AMSTRAD	221.4	
ARGVLL GP	184.0	
ASDA GP	154.0	
BAA	271.0	
BTR	275.0	
BAT INDS	437.0	
BARCLAYS	408.0	
BASS	770.0	
BEAZER	178.0	
BEECHAMS	477.0	
BERISFORD	375.0	
BICC PLC	344.0	
BLUE ARROW	95.0	
BLUE CIRC	58.0	
BODCO GP	405.0	
BOOTS CO	216.0	
BRP INDS	288.0	
BR CORR	234.0	
BR AIRWAY	158.0	
BR AEROSP	515.0	
BR GAS RT	182.0	
BR GAS RT	179.0	
BR LAND	322.0	
B.P.	245.0	
B.P.PP	149.0	
BR TELCOM	237.0	
BURNAL HO	514.0	
BURTON	19.0	
CABLESWIR	375.1	
CADBURYS	377.0	
COATS VTY	218.0	
COMINT	357.0	
CONS GOLD	010.0	
COOKSONS	254.0	
COURTAULD	334.0	
DALGETY	335.0	
DEE CP	170.0	
DIAMONDS	176.0	
ENR CHINA	466.0	
ENTER OIL	128.0	
FERRANTI	93.0	
GEN ACCIO	900.0	
GEN ELEC	160.0	
GLAXO	952.0	
GRANDAD	299.0	
GLOBE	143.0	
GLYNED	307.0	
GRAND HET	507.5	
GUARD RYL	183.0	
GKN	332.0	
GUINNESS	17.0	
INHERSH A	615.0	
HANSON	141.0	
HARRIS H	659.0	
HAKER STD	283.0	
HILLSDOWN	283.0	
ICI	010.0	

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALICE	738.0	742.0
600 GROUP	110.0	109.0
A-AMER TS	361.0	365.0
A-SECT	429.0	424.0
A-S.V.HLD	180.0	180.0
AAB KENT	84.0	83.0
AAH HLD	271.0	270.0
AARONSON	118.0	118.0
ADDISON	38.0	37.0
ADVEST	347.0	348.0
ALEX WRMK	166.0	165.0
ALEXON	372.0	
ALCO COLL	127.0	128.0
ALDO IR B	255.0	255.0
ALDO LBN	125.0	125.0
ALDO PLNT	59.0	59.0
ALLIANCE	828.0	832.0
AMEC	380.0	380.0
AMER TST	124.0	125.0
AMERSHAM	606.0	607.0
AMT HLTC	253.0	254.0
ANGLIA TV	178.0	180.0
ANGLO O'S	204.0	206.0
ANSHACHR	88.0	86.0
APPLEYARD	488.0	488.0
APV PLC	120.0	120.0
AQUAS.A.	79.0	80.0
ARCHER AJ	154.0	155.0
ARLINGTON	172.0	172.0
ARMSTRONG	121.0	122.0
ASHLEY.LA	117.0	117.0
ATLANTIC CH	493.0	493.0
ATMOS	286.0	285.0
AUTO SECS	277.0	277.0
AUDER PLC	61.4	62.0
AVIS EUR	379.0	379.0
AVON RUBB	726.0	725.0
B.M.JUNILI	180.0	180.0
BAILL JAV	482.0	481.0
BAILL SWI	81.0	81.0
BALRO (W)	271.0	272.0
BANK IND	234.0	237.0
BANKER IT	71.0	74.0
BARKER DO	140.0	140.0
BARRT DEV	182.0	183.0
BAYNES C.	31.0	31.0
BBA GROUP	176.0	177.0
BEAR B.WT	3.0	3.0
BEAR BRNO	9.0	9.0
BEATTIE J	149.0	150.0
BEJAM GP	166.0	165.0
BELMAY	64.0	65.0
BELLWAY	238.0	238.0
BENROSE	219.0	220.0
BENLOX HD	48.0	48.0
BERKELEY	308.0	308.0
BHAW NINT	409.0	410.0
BKH GROUP	109.0	109.0
BF OF SCO	369.0	369.0

World Indices

INDEX	LAST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1467.5	1466.1	1477.2	1375.3
FT 500 SHR	1038.4	1038.4	1046.0	957.6
FT ALL SHR	948.85	948.85	955.85	870.22
FT GOV SEC	87.60	87.64	87.82	88.49
FT GOV NM	197.5	194.6	194.8	202.2
FT NIKES F	529.16	529.16	533.15	517.46
FT OIL	1780.1	1780.1	1793.7	1663.6
FT MLD DLR	123.85	124.28	125.75	115.04
FT MLD STG	109.33	109.91	109.54	90.79
FT MLD LOC	114.22	115.56	115.56	99.08

London Stock Market Report

UK STOCKS WENT OFF LOWS ON WALL STREET RALLY. LONDON, AUG 24, REUTER - U.K. EQUITY PRICES RALLIED FROM THEIR LOWS AFTER A SURPRISING EARLY RALLY ON WALL STREET, BUT VOLUME REMAINED LOW. BY 1400 GMT A RELATIVELY MODEST 292 MLN OF LEADING SHARES HAD CHANGED HANDS, DEALERS SAID.

AT 1430 GMT THE FTSE 100 WAS 2.1 POINTS HIGHER AT 1,820.0 AFTER TOUCHING A LOW OF 1,810.9 AT 0912 GMT. DEALERS SAID THE RISE FROM LOWS WAS HELPED PARTLY BY RELIEF THAT THE BANK OF ENGLAND DID NOT SIGNAL ANOTHER RISE IN BASE RATES BECAUSE OF A FURTHER SLIDE IN STERLING.

THERE WERE NO OUTSTANDING FEATURES TODAY AND OVER 30 PCT OF THE TOP 100 SHARES WERE UNCHANGED FROM LAST NIGHT'S CLOSE.

TRADERS WERE BRACING THEMSELVES FOR TOMORROW'S U.K. JULY BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DATA WHICH COULD SET THE SCENE FOR THE NEAR TERM TREND OF INTEREST RATES AND THE LONDON MARKETS.

RECENT INDICATIONS THAT DOMESTIC CONSUMER DEMAND IS ACCELERATING IS CAUSING FEARS THAT DEMAND FOR OVERSEAS GOODS WILL SEE THE MERCHANDISE TRADE DEFICIT FOR JULY EXCEED THE CURRENT 1.5 BILLION STG MEDIAN FORECAST.

AVERAGE FORECASTS FOR THE MORE CLOSELY WATCHED CURRENT ACCOUNT SHORTFALL STAND AT 950 MLN STG COMPARED WITH JUST OVER ONE BILLION IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH, BUT TRADERS SAID A FIGURE OF OVER A BILLION WOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE.

London Gold

LONDON, AUG 24, REUTER - GOLD BULLION CLOSED AT ITS HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE THE BEGINNING OF AUGUST, PULLED UP BY A SURGE IN OTHER PRECIOUS METALS, ESPECIALLY PLATINUM, DEALERS SAID.

THE PLATINUM PRICE SURGE AGAIN WAS LED BY NEW YORK FUTURES. GOLD CLOSED AT 434.20/434.70 DLR PER OUNCE, UP 2.20 DLR FROM YESTERDAY'S LONDON CLOSE, BUT LEFT BEHIND BY THE STRONG PERFORMANCE OF PLATINUM AND SILVER, WHICH WERE UP 10 DLR AND SEVEN CENTS PER OUNCE RESPECTIVELY FROM YESTERDAY'S LEVELS.

"ONE HAS GOT TO SAY THAT ON THESE COUPLES OF SPELLS OF BUYING OF PLATINUM, GOLD LOOKS A BIT DISAPPOINTING," SAID ONE LONDON DEALER.

London Money Market

LONDON, AUG 24, REUTER - MONEY MARKET INTEREST RATES REMAINED 1/8 POINT FIRMER IN LATE TRADING, WITH THE BENCHMARK THREE MONTH INTERBANK RATE CLEARLY DISCOUNTING A FURTHER HALF POINT RISE IN U.K. BASE RATES TO 11-1/2 PCT.

THREE MONTHS STOOD AT 11-3/4 5/8 PCT AFTER A NECTIC DAY. ONE TRADER SAID, "THE LEVEL OF ACTUAL BUSINESS HAS NOT BEEN GREAT BUT THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF NOISE."

THIS MORNING, TRADERS HAD SAID THERE WAS AN EVEN CHANCE THE BANK OF ENGLAND WOULD SIGNAL HIGHER RATES TODAY, BUT IN THE EVENT, THE BANK TOOK NO ACTION IN THE MARKET. THIS INDICATED TO SOME ITS WISH TO MAINTAIN RATES AT PRESENT LEVELS.

Foreign Exchange

OLR	STG	DMK	FFR	FIX
1.680/15	1.6830/35	1.8910/15	6.4220/50	10.8190/330
1.8920/9000	3.180/194	3.1865/1900	10.8190/330	10.8190/330
FFR 6.429/441	10.8170/835	339.37/340		
SFR 1.5980/5990	2.6959/6992	84.26/36	24.81/84	1300
NFL 2.1395	3.5970	112.91	33.26	FIX
ECU 1.09904	6.82636	2.07795	7.05967	CLSE
SDR 1.28631	0.763434	2.45132	8.32050	CLSE
YEN 134.12/22	225.38/70			NOON
SDR RATES	23/08/1988	OTHERS	24/08/1988	

Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices

INDEX	LAST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
AUSTRALIA	323.5	326.0	325.0	306.2
AUSTRIA	220.6	223.1	224.1	208.9
BELGIUM	377.9	378.7	379.2	388.2
CANADA	359.7	353.2	356.2	375.1
DENMARK	438.1	437.5	436.1	436.4
FRANCE	362.7	365.5	366.2	370.5
GERMANY	179.5	181.5	181.4	176.9
HONG KONG	1863.0	1882.3	1893.2	1945.9
FINLAND	122.5	124.1	123.7	123.5
ITALY	426.6	426.7	428.6	402.3
JAPAN	1290.9	1299.8	1305.8	1269.9
NETHERLANDS	257.8	262.3	263.5	253.4
NEW ZEAL	99.1	99.1	99.0	98.9
NORWAY	476.3	483.7	489.0	475.2
SPAIN	609.1	614.9	618.1	633.7
SWEDEN	258.8	259.3	260.5	268.6
SWITZ	912.3	924.9	925.7	917.0
U.K.	549.7	554.0	557.8	556.5
U.S.A.	247.0	259.9	259.5	251.9
WORLD	437.5	438.6	443.3	446.8
E.A.F.E.	829.5	833.1	841.7	829.3

Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices

INDEX	LAST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
AUSTRALIA	323.5	326.0	325.0	306.2
AUSTRIA	220.6	223.1	224.1	208.9
BELGIUM	377.9	378.7	379.2	388.2
CANADA	359.7	353.2	356.2	375.1
DENMARK	438.1	437.5	436.1	436.4
FRANCE	362.7	365.5	366.2	370.5
GERMANY	179.5	181.5	181.4	176.9
HONG KONG	1863.0	1882.3	1893.2	1945.9
FINLAND	122.5	124.1	123.7	123.5
ITALY	426.6	426.7	428.6	402.3
JAPAN	1290.9	1299.8	1305.8	1269.9
NETHERLANDS	257.8	262.3	263.5	253.4
NEW ZEAL	99.1	99.1	99.0	98.9
NORWAY	476.3	483.7	489.0	475.2
SPAIN	609.1	614.9	618.1	633.7
SWEDEN	258.8	259.3	260.5	268.6
SWITZ	912.3	924.9	925.7	917.0
U.K.	549.7	554.0	557.8	556.5
U.S.A.	247.0	259.9	259.5	251.9
WORLD	437.5	438.6	443.3	446.8
E.A.F.E.	829.5	833.1	841.7	829.3

Past Remittance at Competitive Rates

Egypt * Jordan * India * Sri Lanka * Pakistan * Bangladesh
* Philippines * South Korea

NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCH COM	29.5	29.5
ATLANTIC R	79.7	79.6
AAR CORP	24.4	24.4
ABBOTT LAB	45.1	45.2
ACME CLVD	10.0	9.7
ADV MICRO	11.2	11.2
AEROF LAB	7.4	7.4
AETNA LIFE	47.4	47.3
ARMSTRONG	14.7	14.5
AIR PR-CIM	41.7	42.0
ALASKA AIR	18.6	18.5
ALBERTSONS	33.4	33.6
ALPHA B-16	0	82.0
ALCAN ALUM	29.6	29.6
ALCO STAND	24.7	24.7
AM DYNAMID	45.6	45.3
AM ELET PW	26.5	26.5
AM HOM PRO	74.3	74.3
AM STORES	49.0	49.1
AM TEL-TEL	24.3	24.3
AMOCO CORP	73.3	73.7
AMP INC	42.1	41.7
AMPCO PITT	0	12.1
AMR CORP	42.4	41.7
AMR GEN CO	33.2	33.2
AMERADA HE	27.1	26.7
AMEREN	11.5	11.5
AMEREN CP	7.5	7.5
AMEREN ST	2.5	2.5
AMEREN ST	32.4	32.6
AMEREN ST	34.6	35.0
AMEREN ST	6.1	6.1
AMEREN ST	32.7	32.7
AMEREN ST	20.4	20.4
AMEREN ST	19.5	19.5
AMEREN ST	23.2	23.2
AMEREN ST	30.0	29.7
AMEREN ST	38.7	38.7
AMEREN ST	26.1	26.1
AMEREN ST	20.4	20.2
AMEREN ST	5.7	5.7
AMEREN ST	21.7	21.7
AMEREN ST	0	46.1
AMEREN ST	35.0	35.0
AMEREN ST	37.1	37.2
AMEREN ST	14.1	14.1
AMEREN ST	6.7	6.6
AMEREN ST	56.5	56.5
AMEREN ST	41.4	41.3
AMEREN ST	0	10.2
AMEREN ST	52.2	52.2
AMEREN ST	28.0	27.5
AMEREN ST	39.6	39.6
AMEREN ST	29.1	29.1
AMEREN ST	42.0	41.7
AMEREN ST	19.5	19.5
AMEREN ST	16.4	16.4
AMEREN ST	11.6	11.6
AMEREN ST	37.1	37.0
AMEREN ST	25.1	24.6
AMEREN ST	21.4	21.4
AMEREN ST	14.3	14.3
AMEREN ST	25.6	25.2
AMEREN ST	55.2	55.2
AMEREN ST	0	28.0
AMEREN ST	158.0	158.0
AMEREN ST	42.1	42.1
AMEREN ST	31.1	31.1
AMEREN ST	11.7	11.7
AMEREN ST	3.6	3.6
AMEREN ST	27.7	27.6
AMEREN ST	30.2	30.2
AMEREN ST	31.4	31.4
AMEREN ST	44.1	44.2
AMEREN ST	21.7	21.7
AMEREN ST	53.4	53.4
AMEREN ST	6.1	6.1
AMEREN ST	49.0	48.6
AMEREN ST	21.6	21.6
AMEREN ST	32.5	32.3
AMEREN ST	15.2	15.2
AMEREN ST	22.6	22.6
AMEREN ST	51.1	51.1
AMEREN ST	31.1	31.1
AMEREN ST	1.2	1.1
AMEREN ST	17.2	17.4
AMEREN ST	10.0	10.0
AMEREN ST	33.3	33.1
AMEREN ST	39.0	39.1
AMEREN ST	1.7	1.7
AMEREN ST	35.7	35.6
AMEREN ST	41.4	41.4
AMEREN ST	32.2	32.2
AMEREN ST	0	113.0
AMEREN ST	29.1	29.1
AMEREN ST	30.3	30.2
AMEREN ST	43.0	42.7
AMEREN ST	39.7	39.6
AMEREN ST	40.3	40.3
AMEREN ST	35.6	35.

International Bond Highlights

London—Lavora Bank Overseas Curacao, a unit of Banco Internacional del Lavoro, is issuing a 250 mln dlr Eurobond due September 29, 1995 paying 10 pct and priced at 101-3/4 pct, lead manager Nomura International Ltd said. (RTVL 1527)

London—Japanese Railway Company Hankyu Corp is issuing a 200 mln dlr equity warrant bond due September 21, 1992 with an indicated coupon of 4-3/4 pct and par pricing, lead manager Daiwa Europe Ltd said. (RTXY 1000)

Zurich—Japan's Tobishima Corp is issuing 300 mln Swiss francs in convertible notes with an indicated coupon of 1/2 pct and par pricing, lead manager Citicorp Investment Bank (Switzerland) said. (RTW7 0706)

Tokyo—Japan's commercial banks are urging the Finance Ministry to relax its rules on issues of convertible bonds to help them meet proposed capital adequacy standards, banking sources say.

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 10-3/4 1/2	11-1/4 1/8	11-3/4 5/8
FF 4.85/95	5.15/20	5.35/45
PAR 7-9/16 5/8	7-1/2 5/8	7-3/4 7/8
ZUR 1-5/8 1-7/8	2-7/8 3-1/8	3-1/2 3-3/4
BRX 7.55	6-15/16 1/16	7-5/16 7/16
BOM 9-7/8 10-3/8	10-5/8 11-1/8	11 11-1/2
AMS 5-1/8 5-3/8	5-1/2 5-9/16	5-5/8 5-3/4
TOK 3.6875 7500	4.1250 1875	4.0625 1250
ECU 6.87 7.12	7.18 7.31	7.56 7.68

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KDJ interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	6-3/16	6-1/2
3 months	6-1/4	6-1/2
6 months	6-1/4	6-1/2
1 year	6-1/4	6-9/16

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE
L GIAN VR	202.4
1490.0	1500.0
DEMURK	178.0
179.0	179.0
DF	259.7
258.1	258.1
VER	291.5
289.3	289.3
VER HYP	324.0
321.5	321.5
IC	324.0
323.5	323.5
IF	302.0
302.0	302.0
IF	408.0
405.5	405.5
WHERZBK	221.1
220.7	220.7
WIT GUIN	239.0
238.7	238.7
LINER BEN	652.5
650.0	650.0
STSC BK	455.5
453.5	453.5
U	376.0
367.0	367.0
ESDNER B	253.0
251.5	251.5
BABCOCK	172.0
170.0	170.0
LD INDEX	480.93
477.12	477.12
ELMUEHL	270.0
270.0	270.0
ALDSCHND	289.8
288.2	288.2
URPERM	428.0
428.0	428.0
JECHST AG	279.8
278.0	278.0
DESCH	156.2
155.5	155.5
JSTEN	189.0
189.0	189.0
JSSEL HLD	409.8
409.0	409.0
ALI SALZ	164.0
163.0	163.0
WESTADT	393.0
391.4	391.4
WURF	338.2
337.0	337.0
DECK H	137.0
138.5	138.5
DECK U	0
101.00	101.00
INDE	681.5
685.0	685.0
JTHANSA	137.0
132.0	132.0
W	200.1
199.0	199.0
ANESMAN	173.2
170.8	170.8
ERDEDES	516.0
512.0	512.0
ETALDES	297.5
291.0	291.0
INDORF PF	426.1
428.0	428.0
DRSK HFD	56.20
57.20	57.20
HILIP KON	622.1
601.0	601.0
SPSC	559.9
552.0	552.0
REUSAG	171.0
172.0	172.0
JA	215.5
214.8	214.8
HEIMETAL	279.5
278.0	278.0
LE P	230.0
229.5	229.5
ALANWAND	213.7
212.0	212.0
CHERUNG	502.0
501.0	501.0
EL	282.1
283.0	283.0
EMENS	425.9
423.0	423.0
YSSSEN	151.0
149.7	149.7
RTA	276.0
277.0	277.0
BA	254.8
253.2	253.2
IV	159.5
159.5	159.5
ALKSAGEN	250.3
250.5	250.5

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE
TUNNEL	15.00
15.00	15.00
ING T	7.15
7.15	7.15
INA GAS	16.00
16.30	16.30
INA L-P	15.90
15.90	15.90
INA MTR	20.90
21.10	21.10
SNO PROP	3.50
3.47	3.47
ERGO IND	4.46
4.46	4.46
EAST C	7.76
7.77	7.77
ORIENT	0
44.00	44.00
DEVELOP	9.55
9.55	9.55
INDEX	520.29
532.13	532.13
IG LUNG	4.87
4.90	4.90
IG SEIG	28.50
28.70	28.70
PAR BR	9.72
9.72	9.72
ELEC CO	7.10
7.05	7.05
KOMCON	7.85
7.85	7.85
LAND CO	8.10
8.10	8.10
SHAW BK	6.15
6.15	6.15
SHAW HT	4.72
4.80	4.80
TELE CO	5.40
5.45	5.45
CHAM WAM	8.55
8.55	8.55
EA PAC	11.60
11.50	11.50
DINE N	13.00
12.90	12.90
LOON N	9.15
9.10	9.10
WORLD	10.70
10.80	10.80
Y CON	2.92
2.77	2.77
TY DEV	7.15
7.15	7.15
K CO	1.91
1.94	1.94
K PROP	10.00
9.95	9.95
DARBY	2.12
2.15	2.15
LUX NFG	2.82
2.80	2.80
E PAC	17.90
17.90	17.90
B CO	12.90
12.90	12.90
CHENING	3.47
3.50	3.50
N BANK	1.55
1.55	1.55
K HARD	0
7.25	7.25
K HAT	0
1.15	1.15
D INTL	3.77
3.80	3.80

CANARA EXCHANGE

Phone: 2437266-2437300
2436482/3

286 500
490 000
30 000
8 750
14 000
77 700

2437266-2437300
2436482/3

2437266-2437300
2436482/3

VISA

ARABIA, VISA, TRAVELLERS
US, US DOLLARS, POUNDS STG.
Without commission
c. 1000 before the 22nd of Sept.
P.S. phone for further details.

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE	STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE	STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE
AIJINOMOTO	2900	2870	MITSUB CP	1110	1130
AKAI ELEC	605	611	MITSUB EL	930	963
AKI	927	925	MITSUB EST	2400	2410
ASAHI GLS	1850	1860	MITSUB HVT	893	915
ASAHI OPT	671	685	MITSUB I	869	875
BANK TOKYO	1570	1560	MITSUB SEC	1860	1890
BRIDGEPOST	1310	1310	NICHIM	1360	1390
CANON	1500	1570	NICHIM CHMT	801	805
CASIO COMP	1460	1520	NIKKO SEC	1780	1850
CHUGAI PHM	1520	1530	NIP ELEC	2120	2150
CITIZEN H	810	825	NIP KKKAN	668	681
CITIZEN KAN	2990	2940	NIP OIL	1070	1070
DAI NIP IC	788	791	NIP STEEL	708	719
DAI NIP PT	2580	2590	HIS YUSEN	720	740
DAI NIP SC	1090	1090	HIS MOTOR	1150	1180
DAI NIP TO	658	673	NOMURA SEC	3650	3700
DAI NIP TO	835	863	OHBA CO	950	961
DAI NIP TO	2030	2080	OLYMPUS	1110	1120
DAI NIP TO	2310	2310	PENTA OCN	870	861
DAI NIP TO	912	950	PIOREK	3660	3740
DAI NIP TO	2010	2010	RENOM	930	938
DAI NIP TO	1850	1890	RICH	1300	1320
DAI NIP TO	3140	3150	SANKYO	2000	2050
DAI NIP TO	3760	3850	SANKYO ELEC	700	723
DAI NIP TO	1760	1750	SEIYU ST	2200	2270
DAI NIP TO	707	705	SEKISUI PB	1680	1680
DAI NIP TO	1770	1820	SHARP	1190	1220
DAI NIP TO	2210	2280	SHIMIZO	1690	1680
DAI NIP TO	2280	2300	SHIMIZO	6800	6910
DAI NIP TO	4300	4330	SHIMIZO	1040	1030
DAI NIP TO	1160	1200	TAISEI	885	890
DAI NIP TO	14400	14900	TAISHO HRN	1080	1090
DAI NIP TO	645	645	TAISHO HRN	2610	2610
DAI NIP TO	1440	1410	TEIJIN	762	763
DAI NIP TO	3050	3070	TKO NEW IX	171.31	183.54
DAI NIP TO	1710	1700	TKO NEW IX	1940	2000
DAI NIP TO	635	660	TOKYO ELEC	1260	1270
DAI NIP TO	727	748	TOKYO GAS	1270	1300
DAI NIP TO	1990	1920	TOKYO POWR	5680	5780
DAI NIP TO	769	770	TORAY IND	820	828
DAI NIP TO	750	756	TOSHIBA EL	1110	1140
DAI NIP TO	5770	5860	TOTO	2090	2090
DAI NIP TO	1640	1670	TOYO KKOY	671	683
DAI NIP TO	2990	3020	TOYOTA MOT	2740	2790
DAI NIP TO	2710	2760	YAMAH	1410	1400
DAI NIP TO	0	2660	YAMAHITCHI	1800	1830
DAI NIP TO	935	925	YAMAMOUCHI	4000	4000
DAI NIP TO			YAKAZAKI	1460	1480

Tokyo Stock Market Report

DOLLAR CLOSING MIXED IN CAUTIOUS TOKYO
TOKYO, AUG 24, REUTER - RATE-CHECKING BY THE BANK OF JAPAN AND CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE INTERVENTION BROUGHT THE DOLLAR LOWER AGAINST THE MARK, BUT STRONG INSTITUTIONAL DEMAND NEAR 134 YEN KEPT THE U.S. CURRENCY BUOYED AGAINST THE YEN.

"RATE CHECKING DIDN'T REALLY BRING THE DOLLAR MUCH LOWER, BUT SUPPRESSED TRADING RISES," SAID DEALER HIROMORI OIZUMI AT U.S. OFFICIAL SAID THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION DID NOT WANT A FURTHER DOLLAR RISE ALSO DAMPENED SENTIMENT.

THE DOLLAR CLOSED AT 134.30 YEN AND 1.9070/75 MARKS AGAINST 134.05/15 AND 1.9110/20 IN NEW YORK ON TUESDAY. 24-AUG-0649 SRK474

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE DOWN IN THIN TRADE
TOKYO, AUG 24, REUTER - SHARES PRICES CLOSED DOWN IN THIN TRADE WITH A SMALL MORNING RALLY FIZZLING OUT AS INVESTORS TOOK PROFITS AND ASSUMED A WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE, BROKERS SAID.

"PEOPLE ARE TAKING A NEUTRAL POSITION. THEY'RE BASICALLY WAITING FOR THE BUNDESBANK TO MAKE UP ITS MIND OR THURSDAY," SAID BRUCE BARCOCK, AN ANALYST WITH PRUDENTIAL-BACHE SECURITIES (JAPAN) LTD. A BUNDESBANK MEETING ON THURSDAY IS EXPECTED TO WEIGH A POSSIBLE INTEREST RATE RISE.

THE NIKKEI INDEX DROPT 120.28 POINTS, OR 0.43 PCT, TO 27,799.67. IT SANK 159.23 POINTS ON TUESDAY.

VOLUME WAS A THIN 600 MLN SHARES AGAINST 500 MLN ON TUESDAY, REFLECTING THE DULL SENTIMENT, BROKERS SAID.

FALLS LED RISES BY ABOUT EIGHT TO ONE.
COMMUNICATIONS, ELECTRICAL, SECURITIES HOUSE, GAS, PRECISION INSTRUMENT, PHARMACEUTICAL, NON-LIFE INSURANCE, MINING, AIRLINE, RETAIL AND AUTO SHARES DECLINED.

RAILWAY/BUS, CREDIT/LEASE, ROLLING STOCK, PULP/PAPER, NON-FERROUS METAL, BANK, OIL, WAREHOUSE, SHIPPING AND SERVICE SECTORS ROSE.

AT ONE POINT IN EARLY TRADE THE NIKKEI HAD GAINED 84.21 POINTS TO 28,004.16 IN EARLY TRADE.

EARLY BUYING WAS BOOSTED BECAUSE U.S. JULY CONSUMER PRICE INDEX DATA REPORTED OVERNIGHT WAS WITHIN EXPECTATIONS AND WALL STREET DID NOT MOVE SHARPLY, BROKERS SAID.

BUYING CENTERED ON INCENTIVE-BACKED ISSUES, USUALLY BOUGHT UP IN TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY.

THE THIN TRADING WAS FAST AND SPECULATIVE WITH PEOPLE IN AND OUT FOR SHORT-TERM GAINS, BROKERS SAID.

"INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS ARE MOSTLY OUT OF THE PICTURE," SAID SHIGERU AKIBA, HEAD TRADER AT UBS PHILLIPS AND CROW INTERNATIONAL LTD. INDIVIDUALS AND COMPANIES HAVE DOMINATED THE MARKET RECENTLY, HE ADDED.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, AUG 24, REUTER - STOCKS GAVE UP EARLY GAINS TO CLOSE LOWER, PARTLY DUE TO WORSE-THAN-EXPECTED CORPORATE RESULTS, BROKERS SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX FINISHED OFF 11.84 POINTS TO 2,520.29 AND THE HONG KONG INDEX WAS DOWN 8.32 TO 1,663.92. TURNOVER SLIPPED TO 475.28 MLN N.K. DLRS FROM 521.05 MLN ON WEDNESDAY.

BROKERS NOTED CATHAY PACIFIC'S REPORT AT MIDOAY OF A 23.2 PCT INTERIN PROFIT GROWTH TO 1.02 BILLION DLRS FROM 828.8 MLN A YEAR AGO WAS BELOW EXPECTATIONS OF MORE THAN 30 PCT. THE STOCK TOPPED THE ACTIVE LIST, FALLING 25 CENTS TO 8.20 DLRS.

AMMAN

	OPNG	CLSE	JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
ALA-ADDIH COMPANY			JOR NATIONAL BANK		
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.			JOR PAPER CARDBRGG	3.20	3.22
ARAB BANK			JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	2.54	2.52
ARAB CHEMICAL OTER	3.96	3.95	JOR PIPES MANUFACT		
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.39	1.39	JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	2.00	2.15
ARAB INSURANCE			JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.00	4.05
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.	0.98	0.98	JOR ROCK WOOL IND.		
ARAB INT. UNION INS	0.94	0.90	JOR SECURIT CORP.	0.75	0.76
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.53	0.58	JOR SELPHO CHEM.		
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK	2.10	2.10	JOR WOOD INDUSTRY		
ARAB PAPER CON/TRD			JOR WORSTED MLL		
ARAB PHARMA.MANF.			JOR, KUWAIT AGR		1.00
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	0.76	0.75	JOR, PETROLIUM REF		1.00
ARAB POTASH CO.	JOR, FRENCH INS.		
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65	JOR. INV. FIN. CORP		
BANK OF JORDAN			JORDAN CULF REAL	0.28	0.28
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95	JORDAN DAIRY		
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	28.00	28.00	JORDAN GULF BANK	1.20	1.19
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25	JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
DAR AL SHAB PRESS			JORDAN INSURANCE	13.85	13.90
KAD ALDAMA DV/INV.			JORDAN ISLAMIC BNK	1.65	1.65
DARCO/INVEST/NOUS.			JORDAN KUWAIT BANK		
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	3.65	3.55	JORDAN TANNING		
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	2.39	2.63	LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.65	0.68
GENERAL INSURANCE	1.29	1.33	MACH/ESQ/RENY/MAIN		
GENERAL INVESTMENT			MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73
GENERAL MINING.			MIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.60	0.40
NIMEN MINERALS	0.75	0.75	MIDDEL EAST INS	60.00	60.00
HOLY LAND INS.	1.25	1.26	MINERALS RESEARCH	0.60	0.55
IND./MATCH JENCO			NAT. FIN. INVEST CO		
INDSTRL DEVLPT BKK	1.47	1.47	NAT/CABLE/WIRE/MF		
INDSTRL/COMM/AGR.			NATIONAL AIRLATS INS	1.22	1.22
INDSTRL INVEST.	0.75	0.75	NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.39	0.39
INTERM. COM/INV			NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.68	0.68
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.85	0.86	NATIONAL STEEL		
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64	ORIENT OXY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
INTERMED/PETRI/CH			PETRA BANK		
J.TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80	PETRA JOR. INS.	0.35	0.35
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29	PHILADELPHIA INS.	0.81	0.82
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET			RAFIA INDUSTRIAL	0.75	0.75
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR			REAL ESTATE INV.	0.42	0.42
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01	25.05	SHIPPING LINES		
JOR ELECTRIC POWER			SPINING MEVING		
JOR FINANCE HOUSE			THE HOUSING BANK		
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY			UNITED INSURANCE		
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.30	UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND		
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.			UNIVERSAL INS.		
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20	WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.70	0.70
			YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.05	1.05

BUSINESS

Gold gains

Dollar bows to banks, but grudgingly

LONDON, Aug. 24. (Reuters): The dollar eased against the Deutsche mark but still showed surprising resilience today in a half-day of central bank intervention against it.

A US bank dealer in Frankfurt said he was amazed the intervention hadn't sent the dollar lower. "Demand for dollars has been quite remarkable," he said.

Relatively high US interest rates needed to fight inflation, and the money market in dollars in a bid to stabilize exchange rates.

Highest

West Germany's Bundesbank and the Swiss National Bank sold dollars today after open market intervention earlier this week by most European central banks and the US Federal Reserve.

The dollar ended in London at 1.82, a rise from 1.81 on Thursday and recent peaks at 1.92. But it

stayed little changed against the yen to close at 134.22.

Speculation the Bundesbank may raise West Germany's discount or Lombard interest rates at a meeting on Thursday helped the mark.

Some dealers also took note of news this week of a record monthly West German trade surplus in June worth almost \$7.5 billion, contrasted with a US deficit for the same month of almost \$12.5 billion.

Wall Street stocks were up in New York this morning taking the Dow Jones industrial average back above 2,000 to 2,002.49 at midday, a gain of 13.16.

Fears

Some dealers say the market was oversold recently on fears of inflation and higher interest rates.

Gold was a little higher at a London afternoon fix of \$433 an ounce after today's \$432.60.

UK equity prices rallied from their lows after a surprising early

rally on Wall Street, but volume here remained low. By 1400 GMT a relatively modest 292 million of leading shares had changed hands, dealers said.

At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was 2.1 points higher at 1,820.9 after touching a low of 1,810.9 at 0912 GMT. Dealers said the rise from lows was helped partly by relief that the Bank of England did not signal another rise in base rates because of a further slide in sterling.

Forecasts

There were no outstanding features today and over 30 per cent of the top 100 shares were unchanged from last night's close.

Traders were bracing themselves for tomorrow's key UK July balance of payments data which could set the scene for the near term trend of interest rates and the London markets.

Recent indications that domestic consumer demand is accelerating, is causing fears that

demand for overseas goods will see the merchandise trade deficit for July exceed the current 1.5 billion sterling median forecast.

Average forecasts for the more closely watched current account shortfall stand at 950 million sterling compared with just over one billion in the previous month, but traders said a figure of over a billion would come as no surprise.

Worries

Despite worries over another rise in the cost of borrowing, analysts think the UK authorities are likely to hold off signalling any rise in base rates until they see the market's reaction to the balance of payments data.

Sterling closed two basis points off on a trade weighted basis at 75.9, below the psychologically important 76.0 level.

The key three month sterling interbank rate, used as a guide to base rates, was trading quietly 1/8 point up on the day at 11-3/4

5/8 per cent, clearly already discounting a 1/2 point rise in base rates to 11-1/2 per cent.

In spite of all the worries over base rates, inflation and the balance of payments, dealers said the market was still underpinned by strong growth in corporate earnings.

This, together with fairly high dividend yields and an increase in institutional liquidity is making fund managers very reluctant to pare equity positions further, they said.

International industrial conglomerate Hanson PLC, unchanged at 142p, was top of the active list with over 7.6 million of its shares changing hands in the wake of third quarter results. Hanson reported third quarter pre-tax profits of 249 million sterling against 205 million in the corresponding period last year.

The Hanson profits came at the upper end of market expectations.

OPEC tries to curb excess output and drive prices up

Gulf tour a fact-finding mission, says Subroto

LONDON, Aug. 24. (OPECNA): OPEC secretary-general Dr Subroto has described his second tour of the Gulf beginning on Monday as a "fact-finding mission".

During his visit to Kuwait, he will go to Tehran and Baghdad to find out the new positions of Iraq and Iraq on the issue of production ceilings, in view of recent developments in the Gulf. Expressing hope that a settlement to this issue could be reached, he said a solution would involve oil prices and benefit both oil-producing countries as well as the rest of the world.

Experts

In an interview with Kuwait Press Agency (KUNA) here on Monday, he termed his visit to Kuwait where he would meet Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa as a "fact-finding mission".

At the meeting of the technical commission on definitions, Subroto said condensates concerned all

member countries and "hopefully we could reach a formula that would be acceptable to all before the November meeting".

Commenting on the cooperation of the United Kingdom, the United States and Soviet Union, he said solidarity and unity within the organisation would boost cooperation with non-OPEC oil producers, particularly from the Third World, who indicated their willingness to cooperate with OPEC.

Visits

"With this in mind, we would continue our dialogue," he said, noting that the three industrialised countries also prefer to have good prices for their crude.

The OPEC secretary-general confirmed that the meeting of the ministerial price committee would be held before the next OPEC conference scheduled for November 21, "but the time and venue have not yet been set."

Subroto said he would present a report on his visits to various countries to the price committee comprising the ministers of energy and petroleum of Algeria, Indonesia, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

He did not rule out an extraordinary meeting if there were justifications for it, but he stressed that there were no intentions for that right now.

On the evolution of oil prices between now and the next OPEC conference, he said these depended on the fundamentals of the oil market — supply and demand, and stock and psychology. He said oversupply of crude oil would normally weaken prices.

On market psychology, he said the Gulf ceasefire and the settlement of production ceilings would boost solidarity and unity among member countries.

Subroto has so far visited five OPEC member countries — Saudi Arabia, the United Arab

Emirates, Indonesia, Ecuador and Venezuela, as part of his plan to tour all 13 OPEC member countries.

Meanwhile, OPEC is trying to close loopholes in its organisation rules to curb excess output and drive prices up but one big problem is deciding what is, and what isn't, crude oil.

Several important members including Saudi Arabia and Kuwait want to tighten rules on so-called condensates — gaseous hydrocarbons that turn into petrol-rich liquid at ground level.

Co-operation

Condensates do not now count for inclusion in the organisation's output quotas and some members allege that others get round the rules by defining some of their oil as condensate.

"There is no answer to the question of how to define condensates," said Tom Manning of Houston-based oil consultants Purvin and Gertz. "OPEC produces a range of

condensates with a range of characteristics and there is no way to precisely define them."

But Kuwait and Saudi Arabia want this settled before going on to other issues such as co-operation with non-OPEC nations.

Definitions were raised by Gulf Arab members at a meeting OPEC held with six non-OPEC states at the end of April.

Sheikh Ali said at the time: "If we adopt one definition of condensate, one way or another, the difference can be as much as two million barrels per day of OPEC's quota."

Current organisation output is around 19 million barrels daily. The oil industry generally is at odds over how to define condensates.

Pressures

Pressures within OPEC to agree a definition, however, are steadily increasing and may be the key to progress in other areas of dispute within the group, oil analysts said.

Oil markets remain thin

LONDON, Aug. 24. (Reuters): Oil and crude oil prices eased today in dull markets, traders said.

Weekly figures issued late on Tuesday by the American Petroleum Institute showed an unexpected 4.3 million barrels fall in US crude stocks and gave rise to a small boost.

Oil markets shed most of the gains of Europe today.

Prices were unaffected by news that OPEC secretary-general Subroto that the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries is trying to bring Iraq into the organisation output system on the basis of quota parity with Iran.

Subroto refused to sign recent OPEC agreements because it was not allowed to produce as much as Iran, he said. The European close, with the Brent Blend, the most widely-traded international crude, stood at \$14.85, with West Texas Intermediate, the US benchmark grade, at \$15.75 a barrel, down five cents firmer than on Tuesday. The leading Mideast grade Dubai was unchanged at \$15.20 a barrel.

Later spot oil prices — FOB, dollar per barrel:

Aug 24 Aug 23
Brent (prompt) 14.85 14.80
WTI (Cushing) 15.75 15.70
Dubai (October) 13.20 13.20

Turkey's oil imports from Iraq more than double

ANKARA, Aug. 24. (Reuters): Turkey's oil imports from Iraq rose 131 per cent in the first six months of the year to 6.683 million tonnes compared with 2.96 million in the first half of 1987, the State Institute of Statistics said today.

Turkey imported 10.518 million tonnes of crude oil in the first six months of 1988, an increase of 17.5 per cent on the same period last year, it said in a report. Iraq accounted for just over 60 per cent of the total.

Imports

Iraq was in the second place with imports of 2.764 million tonnes of oil, down from 3.192 million tonnes, while imports from Libya plummeted from 1.2 million tonnes to 220,339 tonnes.

Turkey also bought lesser amounts of oil from the Soviet Union, Algeria and Saudi Arabia and dropped Abu Dhabi and China from last year's list of suppliers.

Turkey's oil bill for first half of 1988 stood at \$1.291 billion, an increase of 5.2 per cent over the same period last year.

Kuwait money supply growth slows

THE money supply in local markets saw a KD 39 million decrease in June, a 0.8 per cent drop compared to the previous month, the Central Bank reported yesterday.

The decline put the money supply in local markets at KD 4,820 million, according to the bank's figures.

This decrease was due to mixed rates of change in money supply components.

Sight deposits and deposits in foreign currencies increased by 5.4 per cent and 0.1 per cent respectively. But savings deposits, time deposits and currency in circulation, decelerated by 4.1 per cent, 1.4 per cent and 3.9 per cent respectively.

Declines

However, certificates of deposit, were unchanged from their level in the previous month, the bank's monthly monetary review said.

The review said the local bank's balance sheet, after two

consecutive declines, rose in June by 1.4 per cent, KD 180 million, to KD 12,749 million.

On the side of assets, the increase was due to rises in local investments (mainly public debt instruments) by KD 64 million (4.1 per cent), credit facilities to residents by KD 64 million (1.1 per cent), cash and cash items by KD 11 million (29.1 per cent) and foreign assets by KD 77 million (3 per cent).

Balances with the Central Bank and other local assets declined by KD 20 million (24.4 per cent) and KD 16 million (0.7 per cent) respectively.

Liabilities

On the side of liabilities, the increase was most pronounced in foreign liabilities, which rose by KD 155 million (12.4 per cent). Government deposits and domestic private sector deposits declined by 7.8 per cent and 0.2 per cent respectively.

At the end of June, the public debt instruments reached KD

1,394.5 million against KD 1,345 million in the previous month.

The Central Bank offered four issues totalling KD 400 million for treasury bills and KD 50 million for treasury bonds.

Meanwhile, the seventh and eighth issues of treasury bills, both totalling KD 190 million, have matured.

Rates

The average KD exchange rate fell in June against the US dollar by 1.03 per cent, compared to its decline by 0.16 per cent in the previous month. The US dollar exchange rate ranged between 275.15 fils and 281.03 fils, with a monthly average of 276.92 fils.

The KD exchange rate improved against all other major currencies at varied rates, the highest (3.36 per cent) of which was against the pound sterling, and lowest (0.5 per cent) being against the Japanese yen.

Whereas these rates amounted to 2.52 per cent, 2.43 per cent,

2.25 per cent and 1.86 per cent against the Swiss franc, the Deutsche mark, the Italian lira and the French franc respectively.

The performance of KD exchange rate was noticeably more stable, in June, than the performance of the US dollar exchange rate. The US dollar fluctuated at rates higher than those of the KD against most of these currencies.

Deposits

For the third consecutive month, money market interest rates on interbank KD deposits increased, but at rates much lower than those in the previous month.

Interest rates on all maturities appreciated and at rates of, for example, 6.19 per cent (from 6.11 per cent to 6.49 per cent) on one-year deposits, 4.06 per cent (from 6.24 per cent to 6.50 per cent) on three-month deposits and 3.10 per cent (from 6.32 per cent to 6.52 per cent) on one-month deposits.

Du Pont and University of Houston sign pact on superconductivity

HOUSTON, Texas, Aug. 24. (AP): The University of Houston and Du Pont Co. on Tuesday signed what officials said was the first agreement for a company to license and commercialise superconducting products and processes based on discoveries of school researcher Paul Chu.

The university receives an initial payment of \$1.5 million under the agreement. In addition, Du Pont will pay the school \$1.5 million upon issuance to the university of a US patent covering the superconducting material developed by Chu, considered a world leader in the field, and another \$1.5 million two years after that patent is issued.

Products

Richard van Horn, University president, said the agreement could be worth millions more to the school because of royalties amounting to 50 per cent on products of commercial interest to Du Pont and 75 per cent on

products not of commercial interest.

"It's very hard to estimate," Van Horn said. "It could be in the area of 4 million or it could be the sky's the limit. It could be 10 million or 20 million or more. It certainly will be in the millions of dollars."

Discovery

The money will go for further research at the university, he said.

Superconductors are materials that conduct electricity without resistance and repel magnetic fields. Their use had been limited by the need to cool them with liquid helium to minus 450 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 270 degrees Centigrade), but Chu and his research team, who he referred to as "unknown heroes," found a new superconductor that works at higher temperatures.

The temperature of the new material is high enough to allow the use of cheap, readily available

liquid nitrogen as a coolant. Until that discovery, superconductivity could be achieved only with the much scarcer liquid helium.

A superconducting material that works at room temperature holds the promise of major advances in the production and use of electricity, more powerful magnets and motors, more sensitive medical equipment and more powerful beams for smashing atoms.

Chu, who under the standard university agreement stands to personally gain half of the profits the school receives from patents, said Du Pont's presence would enable the benefits of discoveries in his laboratory to get more quickly into commercial development.

Officials of Du Pont and the University of Houston said it was difficult to estimate when products may become commercially available or what those products might be.

Quarterly US trade deficit drop steepest in more than 5 years

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24. (AP): The US trade deficit fell by 14.9 per cent from April through June, the highest improvement in more than five years, the government reported today.

The Commerce Department said that a record level of US exports and the first quarterly decline in imports in three years pushed the deficit down to \$29.9 billion in the second quarter.

Exports

Sales of both farm and non-farm products rose during the quarter as the decline in the value of the dollar continued to make American goods competitive once again on foreign markets.

Agricultural exports rose 7 per cent to \$9.7 billion, the highest level since the second quarter of 1984, reflecting in part a jump in prices.

Coro sales climbed 27 per cent, with much of the gain attributed to increased sales to the Soviet Union and Mexico. Wheat sales were up 10 per cent due to an increase in sales to China, while meat and poultry shipments rose 28 per cent, largely due to an increase in sales to Japan.

Soybean and wheat prices both rose 13 per cent while corn prices were up 7 per cent. The

12.8 per cent drop in the deficit to \$32.6 billion in the second quarter, compared to \$37.4 billion in the first quarter.

US exports rose \$4.4 billion to a record \$79.7 billion in the second quarter.

Imports

The deficit was down from an imbalance of \$35.2 billion in the first three months of the year. Both quarters represented improvements from a record deficit of \$41.2 billion in the fourth quarter of last year.

The 14.9 per cent narrowing in the deficit represented its biggest decline since the fourth quarter of 1982, when the imbalance fell by 18.9 per cent.

The new figures confirmed an improvement that had already shown up in the department's monthly merchandise trade reports. The earlier figures show

report said the sharp price increases did not reflect the effects of this summer's drought, indicating that further steep price increases will be on the way.

Imports fell by \$900 million, the first quarterly decline in imports since the first quarter of 1985.

The improvement came in non-oil imports as petroleum imports actually rose during the quarter.

The trade deficit decreased with every major geographic area with the exception of Canada, the country's largest trading partner. The Canadian deficit rose by \$500 million to \$4.1 billion.

As usual, the largest deficit was with Japan, an imbalance of \$11.9 billion, down \$1.1 billion from the first quarter.

The deficit with Latin America decreased \$1.5 billion to \$1.7 billion while the deficit with Western Europe fell \$900 million to \$3.8 billion.

EEC to defend itself against US trade bill if necessary

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Aug. 24. (AP): The European Economic Community said today it stands ready to defend its international trade rights against any possible infringement by a new US trade bill.

US President Ronald Reagan signed the bill into law on Tuesday.

It gives US negotiators more bargaining room at international trade talks, boosts US ability to fight restrictive trade policies of other nations and allows the president to block foreign investments if these are seen to impair US national security.

EEC External Relations Commissioner Willy de Clercq said in a statement that the bill confirmed a US tendency "to interpret international trading rules unilaterally."

Interests

He added: "The community stands ready to defend its legitimate interests each time these are threatened by unilateral measures... by US authorities on the basis of the trade bill."

He said he will seek an "adequate" EEC response to the bill when the EEC foreign ministers meet here on Sept. 26.

De Clercq said the EEC had

trade rights in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the international trade organisation, and that it will "defend them if necessary."

In recent months, De Clercq has warned the United States several times on the trade bill.

The EEC objects to the bill raising retaliatory powers in trade and to the extension for two years of the export enhancement programme. The programme pays surplus farm commodities from government bins to exporters to boost overseas sales. The programme has a price tag of \$2.5 billion.

A commission spokesman said the EEC "will check, on a case-by-case basis, to see how the bill is implemented but we first want

a reaction from the member states."

He said the contents of the bill clashed with Reagan's strong views on free trade guarantees.

Reagan said in a speech that the bill "could lead to an import fee that would be illegal according to international law and inconsistent with our goal of moving toward a free world trade."

In his statement, De Clercq said the United States had declared at the Toronto summit of industrialised nations in June that "nations must continue to resist protectionism and the temptation to adopt unilateral measures."

The EEC also was party to the declaration.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Aug. 24. (Reuters): Prices closed firmer in fairly than trading as major bank stocks and some blue chip industrials created a firm undertone. The All Ordinaries index closed up 3.4 at 1,632.9.

TOKYO: Prices closed down in thin trading with a small morning rally fizzling out as investors took profits and assumed a wait-and-see attitude. The Nikkei index fell 120.28 to 27,799.67.

HONG KONG: Stocks gave up early gains to close lower, partly due to worse-than-expected corporate results. The Hang Seng index fell 11.84 to 2,520.28.

SINGAPORE: Prices closed marginally lower on lack of follow-through buying support and selective profit-taking in quiet trading. The Straits Times industrial index, which has fallen for 11 straight days, dropped 1.99 to 1,065.03.

BOMBAY: The exchange was closed for the Parsi New Year. Trading resumes on Thursday.

FRANKFURT: Shares closed a little firmer but off early highs, bolstered by signs that an easing dollar was taking the pressure off the Bundesbank to raise interest rates. The Dax Index rose 5.3 to 1,161.27.

ZURICH: The market closed little changed in line with other stock markets. The All-Share Swiss Index rose 0.5 to 894.1.

PARIS: Prices ended the continuous session firmer, spurred by Wall Street's opening rally. But trading was cautious, with interest rate tension still hanging over the market.

LONDON: Prices rose from their lows after a surprising early rally on Wall Street but volume in London remained slight. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was up 2.1 at 1,820.

NEW YORK: Stocks in mid-morning were holding most of their early gains, with blue chips down slightly from their highest levels. The Dow was up 16 at 2,007.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 24/8/88

B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel.
1	Ibn Alhatham	KSA	4843150
2	Zarka	GH & Q	4747815
3	Shalamar	Barwil	4842988
4	Jilfar	KSA	4843150
6	Golden Wonder	M. Bahar	2433881
7	Hobbing Arrow	Barwil	4842988
11	Ahu Basma	G. Star	4845501
19	Yoshino Reefer	ISA	2441860

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT

ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel.
24/8	Kaneshima	B. B. Hassan	2440359
24/8	Hual Favorita	AM. Bahar	2459891
24/8	Affriatic Universal	GH & Q	4747815
25/8	Dhanla Giri	KTC	
25/8	Ming Cheng	M. Bahar	2433881

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT

B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel.
13	Soya Maru	RSMS	2423642
14	Drava	M. A. Bahar	2433881

SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT

ETA	Ships Name	Agent	Tel.
24/8	CV Atropos	M.A.Bahar	2433881
24/8	Secil	GH&Q	4747815
25/8	Sea Wind	Sagor Sah	2432692
25/8	Maeterlinck	Al Rashed	2422026
28/8	YS Prosperity	Al Rashed	2422026
28/8	Great Liberty	Al Kamal	2425437
3/9	Trade Fair	M.A.Bahar	2433881
20/9	Al Noor	M.A. Bahar	2433881

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

For Rent

ONE storey in a villa, 4 bedrooms, a large hall, CAC, with tele and intercom. Tel. 5621408
(AT6-MZ-AJ-3)

Available

SALMIYA Centre behind 'Pizza Hut'. One big room for 3 Filipino working ladies, KD25 each and one small room for a couple, KD40. Contact Vargha, 'Pamela', Salmiya. Tel. 5732605, 3-10 pm.
(AT5-43615-3)

KUWAIT City behind Muthahda Complex above Miami Restaurant. Spacious room available for 2 bachelors from 1st September. Tel. 2442805, 1.30 - 3.30 pm.
(AT5-43618-2)

SALMIYA, near Farah Centre. One room in a 2 bedroom flat with 2 bathrooms for a Muslim couple or family. Rent KD50. Tel. 5719948.
(AT4-43600-3)

SHARQ, fully furnished room in a CAC flat for 1 or 2 bachelors to share with a family. Rent KD90. Tel. Mr. Maqbool Ahmed, 4714398, 9 am-5 pm, Mohammad, 2469431 after 6 pm.
(AT4-43598-3)

SALMIYA behind Mexican Restaurant. Sharing accommodation available in a 2 bedroom flat for 2 Muslim bachelors or spinsters with a family. Tel. 5726275, after 10 am.
(AT5-43623-3)

FOR SALE

Miscellaneous

SINGER sewing machine for embroidery, model No. 248, Made in Brazil, 2 months old only, for sale. Tel. 5639225.
(AT6-HK-AL-2)

SOFA set 11 seater, KD800, C.G.A. computer monitor KD50, floor conditioner Hoover, KD10, windsurfboard Concorde, KD50, Tel. Norbert, 5644281, after 2 pm.
(AT6-43636-3)

HOUSEHOLD items, including bedroom set, sofa, dining table, washing machine, video, plants, video camera, children items with or without flat. Owner leaving Kuwait. Good bargains. Tel. 4711495 (res), 2402559 off.
(AT5-43619-3)

2.5 TONNES AC, KD 95, 2 tonnes AC, KD 80, kitchen cupboard, KD 70, in excellent condition. Tel. Mr. Sunil, 2444571, 2443517, 8.30 am-5 pm.
(AT4-ASA-AJ-3)

VESPA "Ciao" 1988, low mileage, 130 kms, driving licence not required to drive it, under guarantee, KD140, negotiable. Tel. Mr. Rafiq, 4749546, 4749542, 9 am - 12 noon, 5 - 8 pm, 3981612, 12 noon - 4 pm, 8-10 pm.
(AT4-43601-3)

DOUBLE bed set, Philips refrigerator, cooking range, washing machine, Mitsubishi TV 22" JVC video, 2 sofa sets, dining table with 6 chairs, kitchen cupboards, bookshelf, TV trolley and carpet. Tel. Pervaz, 5640843, 9 am - 9 pm.
(AT6-43628-3)

SHAAB, latiqal Street, 2 bedroom flat with 2 bathrooms, 1 living room including telephone for sale. Tel. Mrs. Deeb, 2645125.
(AT6-43637-2)

Cars

MERCEDES 280SE, model 1983, dark grey, A.C. automatic full options, with sunroof, Alpine cassette changer system and new tyres, in excellent condition. Tel. 4711495 res. 2402559 off.
(AT5-43620-3)

MITSUBISHI Colt '83 white, automatic, registered up to April '89 with AC, KD 400, ono. Tel. Mario, 2418834, 2418830, 2434121, 8 am - 1 pm.
(AT4-43583-3)

CITROEN BX 1.9 GT full options, manual transmission, red, 18 months old. Pride and joy of one owner, leaving Kuwait. KD1850, cash. Tel. 5623295.
(AT5-43614-3)

MERCEDES 500 SEL 1981, dark green metallic, fully automatic, sunroof, 76,000 kms recent re-spray, in very good condition, KD 2,850 Mr. Ashlan, 4878197 anytime (answerphone).
(AT6-ASA-AJ-3)

VOLVO 264 GLE 1980 fully automatic, bronze, sunroof, recent re-spray, in very good condition. KD 700. Tel. Mr. Ashlan, 4878197 anytime (answerphone).
(AT6-43634-3)

Boats

GAMBIT is for sale. Eliminator 32 ft sailing yacht with inboard diesel engine. Well equipped and in good condition. Excellent racing record, but also good cruiser. Owner leaving Kuwait. KD 12000 ono. Tel. 2414131, 2441250, office hours.
(AT5-43621-3)

SERVICES

Transport

REQUIRED from Farwaniya, (behind Holiday Inn Hotel) to Awqaf Complex in Sharq. Office timings - 9 am - 1.30 pm and 4.30 - 8.30 pm. Tel. 4737788, after 5 pm.
(AT5-43627-2)

REQUIRED from Abbasiya to Regal, the Ministry of Electricity and Water, 7 am - 1 pm, 4 - 7 pm. Please contact Mr. Chander, 4881539, 4881453.
(AT6-43639-3)

Tuition

PRE-SCHOOL coaching nursery facilities available from 2 1/2 years onwards in a CAC flat in Abraq Kheitan. Transport available for Carmel School and back in AC car. Tel. 4737732, 9 am - 1 pm.
(AT5-43622-3)

QUALIFIED teacher with 13 years experience in teaching classical Arabic for Arabs and non-Arabs, available to give tuitions either to individuals or a group for all levels. Tel. 3903063, 11 am - 3 pm, and 6-9 pm.
(AT5-43612-3)

PIANO/organ lessons, from beginners to serious jazz, given by an experienced music teacher. Tel. 2422757 10 am - 1 pm only.
(AT5-43613-3)

MUSIC lessons (for sitar, harmonium, tabla, vocal and organ) given by a professional musician. Tel. 5615291.
(AT5-43625-3)

NURSERY classes, given by a qualified and experienced teacher at a private house in Murgab from September. Tel. 2447265, 9 am - 12 noon.
(AT6-43631-3)

MISCELLANEOUS

SPACE for 1/2 container available for Toronto, Canada. Anybody interested, please tele. Mrs. Deeb, 2645125.
(AT6-43638-2)

WANTED

WANTED Chevrolet Caprice Classic 1986 or 1987 model. Please Tel. 5638677.
(AT5-43624-3)

LOST

HANDBAG, containing passport No. N 834567, Civil card, health card including some money in the name of Rita Sequerra. Finder please tele. 5726700, 5717732 or inform the police station, Salmiya.
(AT5-AL-2)

SITUATIONS

Vacant

FEMALE cook for small family. Salary 5517967, after 9 am.
(AT5-43615-3)

FOR RENT

Villas, 1, 2 with apartments in all areas of Kuwait.
Messiah B Real Est. Tel. 2401 24065

For re

Sababiyah, one bed furnished flat and a bedroom flat, both in building. Surra: one 2-storey available. Many flats, villas or available in all areas. Contact Mr. Ken Al Khadra Res 5740259/7, 5

HATID LIGAYA PHILIPPINES DOOR TO DOOR

FREE DELIVERY TO LUZON, VISAYAS AND MINDANAO
ABUGHOSH INT'L TEL: 484-3447 SARAH

REQUIRED

Positions available for:

- SALESPERSON
- 20-25 years of age
- Fluent in Arabic and English
- Valid, Transferable Residence
- Driver's licence a plus

SALES PROMOTOR

- 20-30 years of age
- Fluent in Arabic and English
- Valid, Transferable Residence
- Valid Driver's licence for Kuwait a must
- Female

Please send CV to: C/o. Vacancy P.O. Box 1779 Safat 13018 KUWAIT.

REQUI

Tailor for ladies dress. Must have previous experience with transferable residence. Call: 24047.

FOR RE

Deluxe apartment Jabriya With 3 or 2 spc bedrooms, hall big saloon, two bathrooms, car A/C. Call Tele. 5332443 Abdul Aziz

شركة النقيب وخطار W.I.I.
Airfreight your personal effects
...ECONOMICALLY
484-6009

AL-HAMRA KUWAIT CO. W.L.L.
Sole agent for **Wlaneurop**
Now available, the reliable compressor that can replace.
DAIKIN YORK HITACHI CARRIER SKM TRANE
For more details contact 4815322, 4833744 available in a wide range of models.

Sanbouk
MAKES NO EXCUSE!
Door-to-door service all over the world, specially.
★ Philippines
★ India
★ Sri Lanka
★ Europe
★ USA
Sanbouk Freight for all your moving needs: Import/Export/Packing & Crating/ Clearance & Delivery
SANSOUK FREIGHT
Tel: 2457267, 8, 9 2457201
Tx: 44391 SANTRALKT

Looking for a warm and friendly home?

Then do it through the classified pages of the Arab Times

We have the friendliest readers in town.

ARAB TIMES NEWS IS OUR BUSINESS

Leaving town for good?

Then advertise your odds and ends in the classified pages of the Arab Times

It could be your fastest sale yet

ARAB TIMES NEWS IS OUR BUSINESS

AL-WAZZAN STORE
LOCATED: MAIN CANADA DRY STREET SHUWAKH, NEAR BANK STREET
CALL TEL: 483 9749 / 483 9763 / 481 6232
FOR OUR BEST-OF-THE-MONTH OFFER FOR "C.S." FL. DISKETTES (CHOICE OF HUNDREDS OF PROGRAMS IN KUWAIT) BUMPER BONUS PACK
PAY FOR 20 AND TAKE 5 FREE
ALL DISKETTES CARRY SECTOR ERROR FREE WARRANTY
WE MAKE EX-STOCK DELIVERY
NOW WE PROVIDE COPY SERVICE FOR ANY TYPE DISKETTES FITTED WITH ANY COMBINATION OF DRIVES
360KB/1.2MB/720KB/1.44MB/5.25" OR 3.5" FL. DRIVES
HARD DISKS 21MB/32MB/42MB/64MB/84MB ANY SELECTION
SYSTEMS IN DESK TOP OR TOWER CASE ALL ASSURED
LAP TOP AND PORTABLE SYSTEMS WITH BUILT IN MONITORS
ONLY SEEING IS BELIEVING.
PLEASE VISIT OUR NEWLY DECORATED SHOW ROOM FOR CASH AND CARRY SELF SERVICE SUPER MARKET TYPE SYSTEM

Somebody else must have my stuff...
I should have called Alghanim...
No one does it better.
The biggest IATA Freight agent in Kuwait.
Alghanim
Sea-Freight-Air Packing
Customer Services Tel. 4745533
Fax: 4815322, 4833744

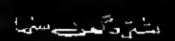
حضانة المثنى
AL-MUTHANNA CITY PLAYGROUP
P.O. Box: 8640 Salmiya. Tel: 2428169
Al Muthanna City Playgroup
one of the best English nurseries in Kuwait.
Come register now!
— Highly qualified British teachers.
— Fun and education all in one.
— Enjoy our spacious area with outside playground.
— Free parking and transport available.
The playgroup is affiliated to Kuwait English School.
Visit us!! and register Now for September classes.
Al Muthanna Complex, Block No. 6, Floor 1
Telephone: 242-8160

Ibn Khaldoun Institute
takes pleasure in announcing
courses in photography, both black & white and in colour.
The courses include theory and practicals in sciences and arts and are for various durations.
They deal in studio photography, dark-room practice, use of camera advertising and press photography.
For further details tele: 2640278 or visit us at 2nd floor, Hani Al Othman building, Ibn Khaldoun Street, Nagra.
Approval No. 802

تورسٹ ریسٹورانٹ
کویت میں اپنے اور عزیز کھانوں کے لئے چند
لاہور کے مشہور شیف افتخار احمد رحمانی بنائی ہوئی برائی مشہور عام ہے کے تیار کردہ میچ ڈائے
دلے پنجابی، مغلانی اور سندھوی کھانے۔
• لیج اور ڈونٹ کے علاوہ پارسلے جانے کی سہولت بھی موجود ہے۔
• ہمارا ڈرائیور آپ کی گاڑی سے بغیر اجیت کے پارک کرنے کے لئے موجود ہے۔
Special dish Fish Tikka
Your car will be parked free of charge by our driver
Free parking available.
Fahad Al Salem Street, opposite Plaza Hotel. Tel: 2411702

NO NEED TO SPEAK SPANISH TO ENJOY MEXICAN FOOD
MEXICAN PIZZA
TACO
BURRITO SUPREME
ENCHILADA SUPREME
CHARCOAL GRILLED SHAWARMA
ONLY AT **Mexican RESTAURANT**
SALMIYA, Opposite Fire Brigade. Tel: 5744240.

پہلے سے عرب شام کے فصول میں نہایت فیر و زرد تھوڑا والا کھڑا پورٹ



سید

رام چور اور شاہنشاہ سید، دونوں دینی سنگد کی حمایت کر کے مسیحی کیدیوں کا قتل کر رہے ہیں۔

[illegible]

میں نے یہ سب سنا دیا تو ابھی سے اس معاملے میں کچھ نہیں ہو سکا ہے کہ حزب مخالف کے ساتھ بات چیت سے کیا نیا کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ اس مسئلے پر محکمہ پٹرول کی طرف سے کوئی فیصلہ نہیں کیا گیا ہے۔

شتر و گھنٹہ کا احسان کہ
حزبِ اخلاص میں رہنے سے
کیا کیا مصیبتیں آسکتی ہیں

وہ حرکت ہوتے۔ اب اس کاغذ شروع کر دینا ایک آسان کام ہے۔

[illegible][illegible]

مجھے اگر کوئی کرشننوں اور پتے بھی دے اور کہے کہ آپ جیسا کہ گھڑی پر گناہیں تو میں ان سے کہہ دوں تو

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

١٠٠

غذاؤں کا صحیح انتخاب کر کے آپ اپنے حُسن میں اضافہ کر سکتی ہیں

یاد رکھو کہ خوبصورتی کے لیے دوپٹے کے کھانے کے ساتھ ایک مخصوص شہزادہ کا اضافہ کر لیں

[illegible][illegible]

کھوئے بے سنگین ترین صحن میں مامن کے افرطے ہو

[illegible]

فہرست حاشیہ پر ایوان میں تقریریں سن کر جب تک کہ ان کے
 ذہن کے لئے دیر نہ ہو کہ جب تک کہ ہم سب کے لئے
 نہیں جو وہ سب سیکھنے سے اپنے لئے ایک اور نیا چیلنج ملے ہوئے
 ۲۰۲۰

خیر اللہ ۲۰۲۰ کو آپ کی سب سے بڑی طرح کی ملاقاتیں گریں
 میں جس طرح سے اپنے لئے قابل فہم ہوئے ہیں جب آپ کی
 باتوں کو یاد کرتے ہیں۔

آپ کو کتنا جتنی سب سے بڑی طرح کی ملاقاتیں گریں
 باتوں کے لئے میں نے سب سے بڑی طرح کی ملاقاتیں گریں
 کہ جب تک کہ میں نے سب سے بڑی طرح کی ملاقاتیں گریں
 یہ تو سب سے بڑی طرح کی ملاقاتیں گریں
 خدا تعالیٰ میں جاتے ہیں کہ کون سا ملاقاتیں گریں
 وہ سب سے بڑی طرح کی ملاقاتیں گریں
 کہ جب تک کہ میں نے سب سے بڑی طرح کی ملاقاتیں گریں
 کہ اس میں سب سے بڑی طرح کی ملاقاتیں گریں
 جتنی میں سب سے بڑی طرح کی ملاقاتیں گریں
 کہ سب سے بڑی طرح کی ملاقاتیں گریں

اگر آپ میں جاتے ہیں؟

دیکھ لیکن کہ جتنے اور کالے کا ہارٹ "پیشہ" ایک
 اپنے "دھن" کے لئے سب سے بڑی طرح کی ملاقاتیں گریں
 دیکھ لیکن کہ

میری کاوشیں "ملاقاتیں" ایک ایک سب سے بڑی
 شام کی جاتے ہیں

۲۰۲۰

[illegible]

کھانا پکانے کے ترکیبیں

[illegible]

انسان کا مہربن بنائیے

[illegible]

ہمنوں کا صفحہ

**اصل پہلوان وہ ہے،
جو مصیبت میں
دوسروں کی مدد کرے**

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

عشقانه اسم شاد، عدنان اسم شاد عباسی کویت

تھانے کے لئے بریف کس کو ہوا تو اس کو سفید رنگ کی کچھ
 بڑیاں نظر آئیں۔ اس کو کچھ سیڑیوں کی کچھ آگلی کر کے اس کا

اس کی خُش طبعی کو برسرِ تہ کوٹہ کا خلیفہ مقرر کر دیا گیا

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

آف بیکارڈس

دیکھ کر سچے بڑے مشورے کیسے نکلتے ہیں ان کو
 کہیں تیار کر رہے ہیں ان گاڑیوں کا قطر بڑھانے
 جن سڑکوں پر وہ بڑھتی ہیں ان کو
 بہتر بنانا ضروری ہے۔

۱۹۵۷ء میں امریکی کے ڈیٹل ڈیوڈس نے اپنی امریکن میل سروس
 پر پہلے پہل چار ۱۵ اینچ کی مسافت طے کی اس سے قبل یہ دور کے موٹر سائیکل
 چار ۱۱ اینچ مسافت پر چلنے کی ڈیڑھ سے دو گنا:

۱۹۵۷ء میں امریکی کے ڈیٹل ڈیوڈس نے اپنی امریکن میل سروس
 پر پہلے پہل چار ۱۵ اینچ کی مسافت طے کی اس سے قبل یہ دور کے موٹر سائیکل
 چار ۱۱ اینچ مسافت پر چلنے کی ڈیڑھ سے دو گنا:

10/10/10

یہ نیکو حکومت اس قابل تھی کہ اس کو کھینٹ خاں اجمہاد کیا جائے

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

مجلس شورای اسلامی

هذه امة الاصل

Qualifier upsets Savchenko

MAHWAH, N.J., Aug. 24. (Reuters) Julie Halard of France, a 17-year-old qualifier, made the most of her chance by ousting seventh seed Larisa Savchenko of the Soviet Union in the first round of the Mahwah Classic tennis tournament yesterday.

Halard, one of three French players to advance, surprised Savchenko, ranked 17th in the world, 7-6 (7-4) 6-2.

Tournament favourite Steffi Graf of West Germany had her second-round match suspended in the second game by rain.

Broken
Graf, aiming to complete a Grand Slam sweep by winning the upcoming US Open, was broken in the first game by 16-year-old Arantxa Sanchez of Spain on four unforced errors.

But the world's number one player earned a double break point at 15-40 in the second game when the match was stopped by a steady rain fall.

Savchenko gave a half-hearted effort in the second set against Halard and won only two points on her last three service games. She double faulted three successive times in the sixth game.

"I think that she was tanking the match in the second set, said Halard, who is ranked 53rd. "All she seemed to do was make mistakes."

Joining Halard into the second round were her compatriots Isabelle Demongeot and Nathalie Tauziat. Both players advanced after losing the opening set.

Demongeot eliminated Judith Wiesner of Austria 4-6 6-4 6-1, while Tauziat beat Etsuko Inoue of Japan 4-6 6-0 6-2.

Opening
"I was upset with myself after I was only one point away from a 4-1 lead in the opening set," said Demongeot. "I was able to attack the ball early in those final two sets and got to the net quickly."

Veteran Dianne Balestrat, 32, also came from behind to edge 18-year-old Nicole Provis in an all-Australian match, 2-6 6-4 7-5.

"It was very close and tough," said Balestrat, twice a semifinalist at the French Open. "She did show me a lot of fighting spirit."

Cash pulls out of US Open

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (Reuters) Pat Cash, the 1987 Wimbledon champion, has pulled out of the US Open tennis championships starting next week because of an achilles tendon injury, organisers said.

Cash, ranked seventh in the world, has been hampered by the injury of late and was knocked out early in last week's ATP championships and in the Stratton Mountain event in Vermont prior to that.

Runner-up
The 23-year-old Cash began the year strong and was runner-up to Mats Wilander of Sweden in the Australian Open, the first Grand Slam event of 1988.

Since losing to Boris Becker of West Germany in the quarterfinals at Wimbledon, however, the Australian's game has floundered.

Sampras and Bates triumph

RYE BROOK, N.Y., Aug. 24. (Reuters) Seventeen-year-old qualifier Pete Sampras of the United States pounded in 12 aces on his way to 7-2, 7-6 upset victory over top seed Michiel Schapers of the Netherlands in the Rye Brook tennis tournament yesterday.

Next up for Sampras will be Jeremy Bates of Britain, who battled back to beat New Zealand's Steve Gey 1-6, 6-4, 7-6, winning the decisive tiebreaker by 9-7 in his first-round match.

Javier Frana of Argentina was the only other seeded player in action. The eighth seed prevailed over American Leif Shiras 6-3, 3-6, 7-5.

Italy thrash Spain 10-0

FLORENCE, Italy, Aug. 24. (AP) Gianluigi Poma hit a three-run homer to highlight a seven-run outburst in the second inning as Italy crushed Spain 10-0 yesterday in the opening game of the World Baseball Championships.

Italy tagged Spain's starting pitcher Manuel Jimenez for seven runs on six hits and five walks in just 1 1/3 innings.

The game was called in the bottom of the seventh inning when Guglielmo Trinci rapped a two-run double that put Italy ahead 10-0. Under international rules, the contest is out short if a team leads by 10 runs or more in the seventh inning and beyond.

Italy's starting pitcher, Paulo Ceccaroli, got the victory. He allowed just four hits in six innings, while walking one and striking out eight.

WORLD NO. 19 EYES LENDL

Jarryd crushes Lundgren



Jarryd wants to see how well he is playing

Twins overcome Tigers

Royals outplay Rangers

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (AP) The Kansas City Royals had a wild time in Texas.

The Royals combined six walks with four hits and a wild pitch, rallying for eight runs with two outs in the top of the ninth inning last night for a stunning 11-7 victory over the Texas Rangers.

"You've got a four-run lead going into the ninth, you've got to figure the bullpen's going to do the job," Rangers manager Bobby Valentine said. "But we ran into big trouble. We gave it away. We walked it away."

Trailing 7-3, George Brett began the comeback with a single. Later, he drew a bases-loaded walk that put Kansas City ahead. The Rangers used four pitchers while Valentine and catcher Jim Sundberg were ejected.

"Winning like this has tremendous possibilities for us," manager John Wathan said. "Now we have to take advantage of it. It's an entirely different mood in the clubhouse tonight. The music's blaring. Everybody's happy."

Twins 7, Tigers 5
Kent Hrbek's second homer of the game, a two-run shot in the 10th inning at the Metrodome, led Minnesota over Detroit for the 10th straight time. The Twins are 10-1 against the AL east leaders this season.

Red Sox 10, Angels 2
Mike Greenwell drove in his Major League-leading 100th run, sending Mike Boddicker and Boston over California.

Greenwell went 3-for-4 with an RBI single that capped a three-run fifth inning and put the Red Sox ahead 3-2.

Yankees 5, Athletics 4
Don Mattingly singled home the winning run in the ninth inning and New York ended its four-game losing streak by beating visiting Oakland. Rafael Santana opened the ninth with a single and took second on a one-out single by Claudell Washington, who had four hits.

Blue Jays 7, White Sox 2
Fred McGriff, Jesse Barfield and Ernie Whitton homered and Toronto sent Chicago to its sixth straight loss. The start of the game at exhibition stadium was delayed 2 hours, 13 minutes by rain.

Indians 6, Brewers 2
Joe Carter doubled twice and Rich Yet pitched five-hit ball for seven innings as Cleveland won at Milwaukee. Paul Zuvella hit an RBI double during a three-run fifth and Carter and Mel Hall had run-scoring doubles during a three-run seventh.

Pirates 2, Reds 0
Dave Lapan, 2-0, won his second consecutive game since his trade to Pittsburgh and his fifth straight overall, giving up four hits in 7 2/3 innings. Jim Gott finished with one-hit relief for his 24th save.

Cubs 9, Astros 3
Damon Berryhill's two-run homer and Vance Law's two-run

single highlighted a seven-run seventh inning, Chicago's biggest this season. Mark Grace broke a 2-2 tie with an RBI single and Rafael Palmeiro followed with a sacrifice fly before Law's single and Berryhill's fifth home run.

Expos 2, Giants 1
Hubie Brook drove in Rex Hudler with a two-out, pinch-single in the 13th inning as Montreal ended its nine-game losing streak and improved to 17-5 in extra innings this season.

Cardinals 7, Braves 0
Bob Forsch pitched a six-hitter and Tom Brumansky drove in three runs, including two with a first-inning homer. Forsch, 8-4, struck out five, walked two and allowed one runner past second base in his first complete game this year.

Padres 9, Phillies 1
Carmelo Martinez hit a pair of two-run homers and Ed Whitson, 11-8, pitched a seven-hitter, striking out seven, for his first complete game since July 26, 1987.

Results
American League
New York 5, Oakland 4
Boston 10, California 5
Minnesota 7, Detroit 5
Cleveland 6, Milwaukee 2
Kansas City 11, Texas 2
Toronto 7, Chicago 2
Seattle 4, Baltimore 2

National League
Pittsburgh 2, Cincinnati 0
Chicago 2, Houston 3
St. Louis 9, Atlanta 0
San Diego 7, Philadelphia 1
New York 5, Los Angeles 1
Montreal 2, San Francisco 1

America's Cup controversy beneficial, says Conner

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (AP) The lengthy court battle over the America's Cup confused the public and shook up the tradition-bound sport of sailing. But skipper Dennis Conner says the controversy may be the "best thing that's ever happened" to yacht racing.

"The America's Cup is bigger now than it's ever been," he said yesterday. "Sure, there has been controversy and bizarre twists. And sure, sometimes it was like a soap opera. But like former US president Harry Truman used to say, 'I don't care what you write about me, just spell the name right.'"

When the best-of-three series between Conner's Stars and Stripes and Michael Fay's New Zealand boat begins Sept. 7 off the coast of San Diego, it will spell relief for both sides.

Speedman moves into semifinals

LONDON, Aug. 24. (Reuters) World number five grandmaster Jonathan Speedman drew the fifth game of the world chess quarterfinal against fellow Briton Nigel Short yesterday, ensuring himself a place in the championships semifinals.

The draw gave Speedman a 3.5-1.5 lead with only one game left to play.

Strange
Speedman, 32, adopted unusual tactics from the start of the fifth game with a strange knight manoeuvre in the opening while Short, ranked third in the world, had several weaknesses to defend on the queen's side.

Speedman stayed out of trouble and added to his advantage by winning a pawn. When Short, 23, offered a draw it was from a clear position of inferiority.

Strategic
Speedman, 32, adopted unusual tactics from the start of the fifth game with a strange knight manoeuvre in the opening while Short, ranked third in the world, had several weaknesses to defend on the queen's side.

Speedman stayed out of trouble and added to his advantage by winning a pawn. When Short, 23, offered a draw it was from a clear position of inferiority.

Strategic
Speedman, 32, adopted unusual tactics from the start of the fifth game with a strange knight manoeuvre in the opening while Short, ranked third in the world, had several weaknesses to defend on the queen's side.

Speedman stayed out of trouble and added to his advantage by winning a pawn. When Short, 23, offered a draw it was from a clear position of inferiority.

Strategic
Speedman, 32, adopted unusual tactics from the start of the fifth game with a strange knight manoeuvre in the opening while Short, ranked third in the world, had several weaknesses to defend on the queen's side.

Speedman stayed out of trouble and added to his advantage by winning a pawn. When Short, 23, offered a draw it was from a clear position of inferiority.

Strategic
Speedman, 32, adopted unusual tactics from the start of the fifth game with a strange knight manoeuvre in the opening while Short, ranked third in the world, had several weaknesses to defend on the queen's side.

Speedman stayed out of trouble and added to his advantage by winning a pawn. When Short, 23, offered a draw it was from a clear position of inferiority.

Strategic
Speedman, 32, adopted unusual tactics from the start of the fifth game with a strange knight manoeuvre in the opening while Short, ranked third in the world, had several weaknesses to defend on the queen's side.

Speedman stayed out of trouble and added to his advantage by winning a pawn. When Short, 23, offered a draw it was from a clear position of inferiority.

Strategic
Speedman, 32, adopted unusual tactics from the start of the fifth game with a strange knight manoeuvre in the opening while Short, ranked third in the world, had several weaknesses to defend on the queen's side.

Speedman stayed out of trouble and added to his advantage by winning a pawn. When Short, 23, offered a draw it was from a clear position of inferiority.

Strategic
Speedman, 32, adopted unusual tactics from the start of the fifth game with a strange knight manoeuvre in the opening while Short, ranked third in the world, had several weaknesses to defend on the queen's side.

Speedman stayed out of trouble and added to his advantage by winning a pawn. When Short, 23, offered a draw it was from a clear position of inferiority.

Strategic
Speedman, 32, adopted unusual tactics from the start of the fifth game with a strange knight manoeuvre in the opening while Short, ranked third in the world, had several weaknesses to defend on the queen's side.

Speedman stayed out of trouble and added to his advantage by winning a pawn. When Short, 23, offered a draw it was from a clear position of inferiority.

Strategic
Speedman, 32, adopted unusual tactics from the start of the fifth game with a strange knight manoeuvre in the opening while Short, ranked third in the world, had several weaknesses to defend on the queen's side.

Speedman stayed out of trouble and added to his advantage by winning a pawn. When Short, 23, offered a draw it was from a clear position of inferiority.

Strategic
Speedman, 32, adopted unusual tactics from the start of the fifth game with a strange knight manoeuvre in the opening while Short, ranked third in the world, had several weaknesses to defend on the queen's side.

Speedman stayed out of trouble and added to his advantage by winning a pawn. When Short, 23, offered a draw it was from a clear position of inferiority.

Longo wins women's pursuit cycling title

GHENT, Belgium, Aug. 24. (AP) France's Jeanne Longo came from behind to edge Barbara Ganz by the smallest of margins to win the pursuit title at the World Track Cycling Championships yesterday.

The outcome was long in doubt. Organisers first announced Ganz as the winner.

But after checking the times again, they said Longo finished in 3:47.948 compared to Ganz's 3:47.954.

"I knew the timing gunshot at the end was for me when I crossed the line," said Longo.

US rider Melinda Mayfield Gurtin upset Tea Vikstedt Nymann of Finland also in a come-from-behind effort to claim the bronze medal.

In the final, Longo trailed until the last lap, but she held on to 0.57 seconds with one kilometre to go in the three-kilometre race but always remained within striking distance.

"I led for so long and I had to say to myself: you're not going to let this one slip away," she said.

Longo, who goes to the Seoul Olympic Games to compete in the road race, said training for such long-distance races had cost her. "Too much road made me vulnerable on the track," she said.

Longo had already won the world title in 1986, but was beaten by US pursuit specialist Rebecca Twigg, who was not in Ghent to defend her title. Longo was second to Twigg three times over the last four years.

Ganz had been unable to split the two atop the standings and her best showing was a bronze in 1986, when Longo won.

Sprint
In earlier races, defending champion Nabyunuki Tawara of Japan and Monday's gold medalist Claudio Gordinelli of Italy reached the semifinals of the professional sprint.

Tawara was joined by compatriot Hirofumi Iryo but a third Japanese, Eiichi Sakamoto lost to strong Australian Stephen Parr. All semifinalsists beat their opponents in two straight legs.

In the professional pursuit event, Britain's Tony Doyle set a best time of 5:49.33 minutes in the five-kilometre race to reach the semifinals.

But within one second were his two closest challengers: Pole Lech Piasicki and Denmark's Jesper Worre. Daniel Wyder of Switzerland took the fourth slot in today's event.

World Cup
ZURICH, Aug. 24. (Reuters) South Yemen have withdrawn from the 1990 World Cup qualifying round, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said today.

The South Yemen authorities announced the decision in a letter to FIFA's Zurich headquarters but gave no reason for the withdrawal, a FIFA spokesman said.

World Cup
ZURICH, Aug. 24. (Reuters) South Yemen have withdrawn from the 1990 World Cup qualifying round, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said today.

The South Yemen authorities announced the decision in a letter to FIFA's Zurich headquarters but gave no reason for the withdrawal, a FIFA spokesman said.

World Cup
ZURICH, Aug. 24. (Reuters) South Yemen have withdrawn from the 1990 World Cup qualifying round, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said today.

The South Yemen authorities announced the decision in a letter to FIFA's Zurich headquarters but gave no reason for the withdrawal, a FIFA spokesman said.

World Cup
ZURICH, Aug. 24. (Reuters) South Yemen have withdrawn from the 1990 World Cup qualifying round, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said today.

The South Yemen authorities announced the decision in a letter to FIFA's Zurich headquarters but gave no reason for the withdrawal, a FIFA spokesman said.

World Cup
ZURICH, Aug. 24. (Reuters) South Yemen have withdrawn from the 1990 World Cup qualifying round, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said today.

The South Yemen authorities announced the decision in a letter to FIFA's Zurich headquarters but gave no reason for the withdrawal, a FIFA spokesman said.

World Cup
ZURICH, Aug. 24. (Reuters) South Yemen have withdrawn from the 1990 World Cup qualifying round, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said today.

The South Yemen authorities announced the decision in a letter to FIFA's Zurich headquarters but gave no reason for the withdrawal, a FIFA spokesman said.

Tyson breaks wrist

NEW YORK, Aug. 24. (Reuters) Heavyweight champion Mike Tyson suffered a hairline fracture of his right wrist in a street brawl with ex-contender Mitch Green early yesterday morning putting his upcoming defence against Briton Frank Bruno in jeopardy.

A sombre Tyson, wearing a heavy cast up to his forearm, told a hastily arranged news conference that he was attacked by Green outside Dapper Dan's all-night clothing store in Harlem.

"He came at me ranting and raving about (promoter) Don King owing him money. He grabbed me and I just defended myself," Tyson said.

Earlier, police said they had received a complaint from Green, who said Tyson had "popped" him on the nose. Green received five stitches in the nose at a nearby hospital.

Tyson's manager, Bill Cayton, said the injury would not necessarily force the cancellation of the champion's scheduled October 8 title defence against Briton Frank Bruno in London's Wembley stadium.

Plan
"If the healing is complete it will be just enough time to train for the fight. We still plan to go to London on the 18th of September," Cayton said.

Tyson said he was shopping in the store at 4:30 am with some of his friends when Green approached him complaining about Don King.

Police earlier described Dapper Dan's as an after-hours club. Two of Tyson's friends appeared at the press conference to back up the champion's story.

Tom Smalls, one of Tyson's friends, said that when Tyson left the store Green followed him and didn't allow him to enter his car.

Smalls said that at one point the champion's hand was caught in the car door. He was unsure if the injury happened then or when Tyson hit Green.

"I had no choice but to defend myself," said Tyson. "I was frightened. I haven't had a street fight in seven years."

Professional basketball star Walter Berry, who was also with Tyson, said Green, "looked out of control."

Cayton, who recently settled a dispute over his managerial contract with Tyson, emerged from a closed-door meeting with the boxer following the press conference and played down the severity of the injury.

"It was only a very fine hairline fracture," said Cayton, who said Tyson's regular doctor, David Chin, had examined him.

"If it wasn't Mike Tyson the doctor would not have put his hand in a cast. We'll take it off in three weeks and if he's completely healed we will start training for Bruno."

Headed: "I'm very optimistic the fight will take place as scheduled."



Tyson shows the cast on his right hand. (Reuters wirephoto)

the champion's hand was caught in the car door. He was unsure if the injury happened then or when Tyson hit Green.

"I had no choice but to defend myself," said Tyson. "I was frightened. I haven't had a street fight in seven years."

Professional basketball star Walter Berry, who was also with Tyson, said Green, "looked out of control."

Cayton, who recently settled a dispute over his managerial contract with Tyson, emerged from a closed-door meeting with the boxer following the press conference and played down the severity of the injury.

"It was only a very fine hairline fracture," said Cayton, who said Tyson's regular doctor, David Chin, had examined him.

"If it wasn't Mike Tyson the doctor would not have put his hand in a cast. We'll take it off in three weeks and if he's completely healed we will start training for Bruno."

Headed: "I'm very optimistic the fight will take place as scheduled."

Passarella comes out of retirement
BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 24. (Reuters) Argentine defender Daniel Passarella came out of soccer retirement to sign for River Plate yesterday, club president Hugo Santilli said.

The 35-year-old Passarella said a month ago he was definitely quitting the game after turning down an offer to end his career with River Plate, the club which launched him to fame in the early 1970s.

But Santilli told reporters "the great captain" is back. Passarella, who captained Argentina to World Cup triumph in 1978, skipped River Plate to an Argentine League title in 1980. He also played in River Plate Championship sides in 1975, 1977 and 1979.

Signed
He will link up again with 1978 World Cup coach Cesar Menotti, who signed for River Plate last month.

Passarella joins River Plate less than a week after Oscar Ruggeri, a defender in Argentina's 1986 World Cup-winning side, was transferred to Spain's Logrones, leaving vacant the club captaincy and a key position at the heart of the defence.

Santilli said last month that if Ruggeri left River Plate there was a good chance of Passarella signing.

In 1982, Passarella joined Italy's Fiorentina. He ended a six-year spell in Italy at Inter Milan this year.

Since returning to Buenos Aires in July, Passarella has also turned down an offer from River Plate's arch-rivals Boca Juniors.

Beckenbauer names team for opening Cup qualifier

FRANKFURT, West Germany, Aug. 24. (Reuters) National team manager Franz Beckenbauer today called up five untested players in an 18-strong squad for West Germany's opening World Cup soccer qualifier against Finland next week.

Six members of the squad, depleted by a string of injuries to established players, also play in the West German Olympic team which has qualified for the Seoul Games next month.

New to the squad are defender Holger Fach, midfielders Thomas Haessler and Gunter Hermann and striker Karlheinz Riedle. Libero Gunnar Sauer was part of Beckenbauer's European Championship squad in June, but did not play.

Next Wednesday's match in Helsinki is the beginning of a two-month layoff due to a back injury. He decisively avenged his defeat by American Randy Barnes in the Zurich Grand Prix meeting.

Effort
Barnes came second yesterday with his best effort a disappointing 20.88 metres.

Australian Debbie Flintoff was also in sparkling form. She won the women's 400 metres hurdles in 54.05 seconds, the year's best performance in the event.

World Cup
ZURICH, Aug. 24. (Reuters) South Yemen have withdrawn from the 1990 World Cup qualifying round, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said today.

The South Yemen authorities announced the decision in a letter to FIFA's Zurich headquarters but gave no reason for the withdrawal, a FIFA spokesman said.

World Cup
ZURICH, Aug. 24. (Reuters) South Yemen have withdrawn from the 1990 World Cup qualifying round, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said today.

The South Yemen authorities announced the decision in a letter to FIFA's Zurich headquarters but gave no reason for the withdrawal, a FIFA spokesman said.



Eid Falah

By Gail Seery

A BRAND new, 340bhp engine, imported specially from the UK, is the centrepiece of Eid Falah's bid to win this year's Marlboro Desert Challenge, which kicks off with the Bahrain BP2000 Jeep rally on September 8 and 9.

Eid Falah feels that if all goes well he has a good chance of winning one of the initial rounds, preferably Bahrain, and therefore of qualifying for the final in Dubai in December.

"I have driven in Bahrain before, so I am familiar with some of the stages. I'm sure I can get a better result than last year."

In this sport, where the difference between first and second place can often be measured in terms of cash investment, sponsorship counts. Eid Falah is very lucky to be the only Kuwaiti driver with full sponsorship in terms of car, equipment and support. No matter how good a

driver is, he cannot win a rally without the aid of not only his co-driver, but also his service crew. In this sport, as in all motorsport, teamwork is vital.

Falah drives an Al Zayani prepared and supported Range Rover - the first locally prepared vehicle of its calibre to compete in Kuwait. Although the Al Zayani company is relatively new to rally sponsorship it has entered wholeheartedly into the sport, progressively strengthening and improving their vehicle.

Overall
Falah took the first win of his career in the Zayani Range Rover in the last local rally. Prior to that his best result was a second in round 2 of the 1987 championship, and second in the Kuwait round of last year's Marlboro Desert Challenge, where he pegged Ahmed Al Hilal's lead back to 14 seconds. He had gone to Bahrain in second place overall, and felt that a win in the Challenge was not

impossible. However suspension problems pushed him back to fourth, and he failed to finish in the final round which was held in Jordan, dropping out when firmly in the lead. Even so, he took fourth place overall in the challenge, a commendable showing for this comparatively inexperienced driver.

Falah is very enthusiastic about his new car. "It's very special, and

SPORTS BRIEFS

Swimmer dies

DOVER, England, Aug 24, (AP): A Brazilian woman described as a marathon swimmer of worldwide status died yesterday during a bid to swim the English Channel. The Coast Guard reported. Renata Camara Agondi, 20, was hauled from the sea into her escort boat when she got into difficulty eight miles from Cap Gris Nez on the French coast. A British Royal Air Force helicopter flew her to Calais, France, where she died in an ambulance on the way to a hospital, the Coast Guard said.

Golf tourney

PORTLAND, Oregon, Aug 24, (AP): Paul Azinger rolled in a six-foot (1.8 metre) birdie putt on the 18th hole yesterday to give him and teammate Bob Tway a one-shot victory in the \$650,000 Fred Meyer challenge golf tournament.

Soviet player

MOSCOW, Aug 24, (Reuter): Italian soccer club Juventus paid \$5 million for Dynamo Kiev midfielder Alexander Zavarov, the Soviet government newspaper Izvestia quoted Kiev trainer Valery Lobanovsky as saying today.

Title fight

TOKYO, Aug 24, (Reuter): World Boxing Association (WBA) junior featherweight champion Juan Jose Estrada of Mexico will defend his title against Japan's Takuya Murguma on October 16 in Osaka, western Japan, organisers said today.

Mondry ahead

HOT SPRINGS, Virginia, Aug 24, (AP): Josh Mondry of Michigan finished five of the last six holes en route to a 4-under-par 66 that gave him the lead after yesterday's first round of stroke play at the 88th US Amateur Golf Tournament.

Thomas Hearn

LOS ANGELES, Aug 24, (AP): Thomas Hearn, the first fighter to win world titles in four weight divisions, will shoot for a fifth championship when he meets World Boxing Association super middleweight champion Fulgencio Obelmejias on Nov 4, promoters announced at a news conference yesterday.

KCL season

A MEETING to conduct the draws for the 1988-89 Kuwait Cricket League (KCL) season will be held at the KCL president's residence (Villa 12, Street 6, Block 6, Surra) tomorrow at 6.30 pm. All the teams interested in taking part in the KCL events must send a representative to the meeting. The season is scheduled to start on Sept 2.

Goans soccer

INCREDIBLE XI meet Boys Own Club in the final of the United Goans Centre soccer tournament tomorrow at the Soor grounds at 4.00 pm. Incredible are the reigning champions.

RESULTS of Sheraton Bridge Club game held on Tuesday.

N/S

1) I. Meonchi & M. Zanussi
2) F. Farah & G. Latta
3) J. Darko & V. Babinov
E/W
1) S. Drexler & K. Mukherjee
2) Salman Ali & I.B. Mastroi
3) Sapre & Gajjar
and Ravi Bhat & D. Pereira

PRINGLE AND FOSTER SHINE

Essex thrash Worcestershire

LONDON, Aug 24, (Reuter): England Test bowlers Neil Foster and Derek Pringle helped Essex in their late title thrust as they hustled second-placed Worcestershire to a 77-run defeat in the English County Championship yesterday.

Worcestershire found a 295 target beyond them on an unreliable pitch that was fully exploited by Foster and Pringle, who both put in morale-boosting bowling figures ahead of England's Test against Sri Lanka tomorrow.

Foster finished with two wickets in three balls and took four for 61 in a match haul of 10 for 128. Pringle had three for 74 as Worcestershire were bowled out for 217. England recruit Phil Newport offered the only touch of defiance with 34.

The 23 points gained means third-placed Essex have moved within five points of Worcestershire and are 21 behind Kent, who failed to force a result over Gloucestershire.

Kent were frustrated by bad light after pace bowler Richard Ellison put them in sight of an unlikely victory by claiming five wickets as Gloucestershire, chasing 227, made 144 for seven.



Foster: 10 for 128



Pringle: three for 74

In poor light captain Chris Cowdrey called on paceman Alan Igglesden with four of the last 20 overs left, but the umpires offered the batsmen the light and off they went to leave Kent with just their seven bonus points.

Earlier Kent declared at 184 for seven, with Mark Benson making 54 and Simon Hinks a rapid 44.

Meanwhile four English teams swiftly started the bidding yesterday for Test cricketer Phillip DeFreitas, who is to quit his county league club Leicestershire

at the end of the season. Hampshire, Worcestershire, Nottinghamshire and Surrey all hinted they were in the market for the 22-year-old all-rounder, who announced on Monday he was leaving the club because he was not happy there.

Results At Trent Bridge: Surrey beat Nottinghamshire by nine wickets. Nottinghamshire 144 in 69.1 overs and 131 (S. Clarke six for 52), Surrey 269 in 70.5 overs and 10 for one. Surrey 23 points, Nottinghamshire four.

At Hinckley: Leicestershire beat Somerset by seven wickets. Somerset 164 in 55 overs and 170 (V. Marks, 50 G. Ferris four for 32), Leicestershire 233 in 74.4 overs and 103 for three. Leicestershire 22 points, Somerset five.

At Wellingborough: Northamptonshire beat Glamorgan by seven wickets. Glamorgan 220 in 88.4 overs and 157 (M. Robinson four for 19, R. Bailey three for 27), Northamptonshire 201 for three declared in 57.5 overs and 178 for three (A. Lamh 104 not out). Northamptonshire 22 points, Glamorgan three.

At Uxbridge: Middlesex beat Warwickshire by seven wickets. Warwickshire 212 in 78.2 overs and 158 (D. Reeve 41, N. Cowans four for 48, A. Fraser three for 25), Middlesex 274 in 98.2 overs and 97 for three (M. Gatting 45 not out, M. Roseberry 41 not out). Middlesex 23 points, Warwickshire six.

At Worcester: Essex heat Worcestershire by 77 runs. Essex 262 for nine declared in 101.1 overs and 182 (P. Prichard 80, P. Newport four for 56), Worcestershire 150 in 52.4 overs and 217 (N. Foster four for 61). Essex 23 points, Worcestershire four.

At Old Trafford: match

drawn. Lancashire 197 in 65.1 overs and 220 for one declared (M. Atherton 115 not out, N. Fairbrother 50 not out, G. Fowler 40), Derbyshire 157 for three declared in 41 overs and 142 for eight (J. Morris 86 not out, M. Watkinson six for 50), Derbyshire five points, Lancashire two.

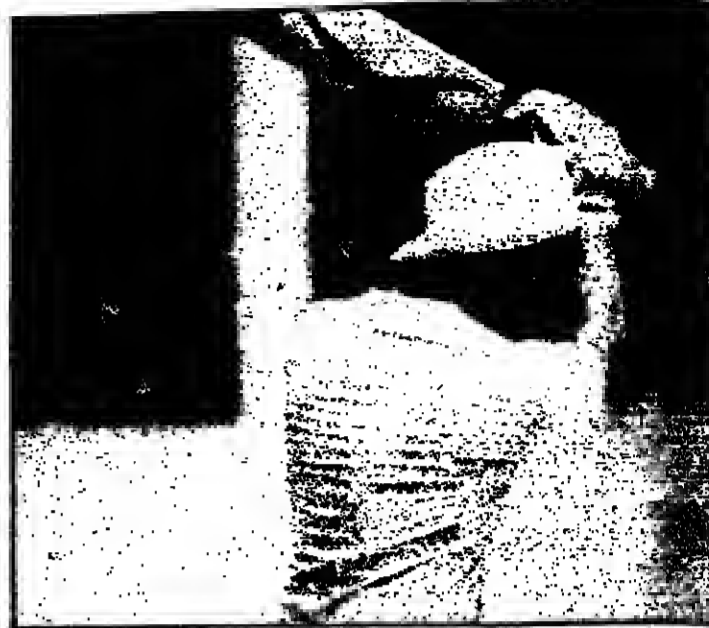
At Bristol: match drawn. Kent 301 for five declared in 98.1 overs and 184 for seven declared (M. Benson 58, S. Hinks 44, M. Pooley four for 80), Gloucestershire 259 for seven declared in 75 overs and 161 for seven (P. Romanes 61, R. Ellison five for 46), Kent seven points, Gloucestershire five.

Standings

English County Championship cricket table after yesterday's results (tablets under played, won, lost, drawn, batting bonus points, bowling bonus points, total points):

Kent	19	9	4	6	48	60	252
Worcestershire	19	8	3	8	45	63	236
Essex	19	7	5	7	51	60	231
Warwickshire	19	6	7	6	43	64	203
Middlesex	19	7	3	9	39	50	201
Leicestershire	19	6	2	11	46	57	199
Nottinghamshire	19	7	7	5	27	64	199
Lancashire	19	6	6	7	35	58	197
Somerset	19	5	9	4	30	56	187
Surrey	18	5	4	9	45	58	183
Northants	19	5	6	8	39	61	180
Gloucestershire	19	4	6	9	46	50	160
Derbyshire	19	4	2	13	43	48	155
Yorkshire	18	3	6	9	36	54	138
Sussex	18	2	9	7	29	57	118
Hampshire	18	2	5	11	28	54	114
Glamorgan	18	0	6	12	34	42	76

Sri Lanka have reason for optimism in Lord's Test



Madugalle: Sri Lanka captain

LONDON, Aug 24, (Reuter): Sri Lanka have never managed to beat even an English county team, but they will not be without hope when they face a national side demoralised and in disarray in the Lord's Test which begins tomorrow.

Although regarded as minnows in top-class international cricket, they have some reason for optimism when they face England in the sole Test of their short tour.

Five of their batsmen have made centuries in their seven drawn matches against county sides during the current tour and captain Ranjan Madugalle showed his class with 97 against Hampshire.

Their one previous Test in this country, four years ago and also at Lord's, should also give them encouragement. Then they were sent in to bat and proceeded to grind the England attack into the ground as they compiled a first innings 491 for seven before declaring.

Falling

After dismissing England for 370, Sri Lanka then made 294 for seven in their second innings, then their captain Duleep Mendis falling by only six runs to complete his second century of the drawn match.

On that occasion, England had just been handed a 5-0 drubbing by West Indies in the earlier part of the summer. This time, they enter the match against Sri Lanka with a marginally better record after having just succumbed to the Caribbean machine only 4-0.

Such is the despair of the English selectors they have made six changes in the line-up to face Sri Lanka, bringing to 31 the number of players they have chosen during the season.

Four of those, bowlers David Lawrence and Phil Newport, wicketkeeper Jack Russell and batsman Kim Barnett, have not played in a Test before which would go some way towards evening out the experience, or lack of it, between the two sides.

Derbyshire captain Barnett is set to make his England debut, despite breaking his nose while fielding against Lancashire on Sunday.

It is experience the Sri Lankans lack most. Unrest in their own country has caused the cancellation of tours there and their players have had little experience of Test matches.

In 1985 and 1986, they played nine Tests. In the past 18 months they have played one.

Madugalle acknowledges the problem. "Our cricket has come to a bit of a standstill. The gap between our domestic game and the international standard has become that much wider," he said.

However, there are many critics who would say that cricket in England has also not only come to a standstill but retrogressed, with not a single victory to show in the past 18 Tests they have played.

With a tough tour of India looming, England desperately need a morale-boosting win at Lord's. But the part-timers of Sri Lanka have shown in the past they can play a bit.

Meanwhile, Sri Lanka opener Roshan Mahanama is doubtful for the Test. He has a strained back muscle.

Manager Abu Fuard said: "We have put him in the squad of 14 but he will probably not be fit."

Even without Mahanama, Sri Lanka batcapably down to number eight and Fuard said if his side bowled above expectations it would "not be too much of a surprise" if they beat England.

Sri Lanka's other selection issue is whether to use one or two spinners. "When the pitch is cut in the morning we will know more about the best side," said Fuard.

Sri Lanka (from): A. Silva, B. Kuruppu, R. Mahanama, A. Samarasekera, A. de Silva, A. Ranatunga, R. Madugalle (captain), D. Mendis, R. Ratnayake, G. Labrooy, S. Abangama, C. Ramanayake, B. Rajadurai.

Australia's tour schedule altered

ISLAMABAD, Aug 24, (Reuter): The first two matches of Australia's cricket tour of Pakistan have been brought forward a day to avoid a sensitive national day.

Pakistan cricket board secretary Arif Abbasi said that the opening three-day match in Rawalpindi would begin on September 5 instead of September 6 as originally planned.

The second three-day game, in western Quetta city, will be from September 9-12. September 11, anniversary of the death of Pakistan's revered founder Mohammad Ali Jinnah and a public holiday, will be a rest day.

The first of the three Tests will begin on September 15 in Karachi.

Quoted

Abbasi, speaking by telephone, confirmed that Imran Khan would not be captaining the side. "There's no doubt about that," he said.

Imran has been quoted in several press interviews as saying he would not take part in the five-week tour because it was too hot and humid in Pakistan at this time of year to play cricket.

Abbasi said an announcement on the captaincy would be made later.

The Australian embassy in Islamabad is closely monitoring the situation in Pakistan following the suspected assassination of President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq a week ago, a spokesman said.

Johnson optimistic about Olympics

TORONTO, Aug 24, (Reuter): Ben Johnson returned home from his disappointing European tour weary, but optimistic that he would be ready to run his best in the Seoul Games next month.

"I'm tired. I need to rest for a few days and then start training again for Seoul," Johnson told Reuters.

Losses "I've got four weeks to pull it all back together."

Johnson finished third twice within a week, last Wednesday at Zurich and Sunday in Cologne — the first time he's had consecutive losses in the 100-metre event in three years.

Johnson, who last year stun-

ned the athletics world with a record run of 9.83 seconds at the Rome World Championships, is coming off a hamstring injury. The Jamaican-born sprinter, however, insists he is in good physical shape.

"Physically I felt good, but the extra gear just wasn't there. I had felt good in Zurich, but I ran a terrible race. I still ran 10-flat, which tells me I could be strong enough to go 9.7," he said.

When asked what went wrong in his race on Sunday, Johnson said in a telephone interview yesterday: "Everything. I just couldn't go. After 60 metres, no overdrive. Too tired."

Johnson's personal physician, Dr Mario Astaphan, said the

world record holder's hamstring was 100 per cent healed.

"But the muscles aren't firing as they did last year," said Astaphan, who treated Johnson in June at his clinic in the Caribbean island of St Kitts.

False

Waldemar Matuszewski, a Polish-born masseuse who works on Johnson's muscles daily, agreed the injury has healed.

"Everything is all right with the muscle. But there's not enough power to finish the race," Matuszewski said.

In Zurich, American Carl Lewis won in 9.93 seconds and teammate Calvin Smith was

second in 9.97. Johnson, after being charged with one false start, lost his form with 20 metres to go and was third in 10 seconds.

On Sunday, Johnson finished third again — this time behind Smith and his fellow-American Dennis Mitchell. Johnson's time was a sluggish 10.29.

The 26-year-old Johnson, who won a bronze medal in the 100 metres in the 1984 Games at Los Angeles, has no races scheduled between now and the Seoul Olympics.

While most Canadian Olympians are slated to leave for Seoul on September 9, Johnson may fly to a pre-Olympic training camp in Japan earlier to get acclimatised.

Residents back Anchorage's bid for Games

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, Aug 24, (Reuter): Residents here voted almost two to one yesterday in favour of the city's bid to host the 1994 Olympic Winter Games.

Officials of the Anchorage Organising Committee (AOC), the group behind the bid, said the support shown by the people of Anchorage in yesterday's referendum would help them when the International Olympic Committee (IOC) meets in Seoul on September 15 to choose the site of the 1994 Winter Olympics.

"We're going to Seoul with message that says Anchorage said yes to the Olympic movement and Anchorage accepts the challenge of preparing and putting on the Winter Games in 1994," said AOC chairman Rick Mystrom.

The referendum asked voters whether the city should guarantee financing for the Games, which is one of the IOC's requirements for potential host cities.

The final vote on the measure was 34,480 in favour and 17,760 against.

Olympic flame travels to Athens

ELEFSIS, Greece, Aug 24, (AP): The Olympic flame that will burn at Seoul sailed for Athens today aboard a replica of an ancient warship with a Greek Navy crew as oarsmen.

After a 340-kilometre (212-mile) overnight torch relay across southern Greece, the flame, was transferred to the 170-oared Tirimene in a waterfront ceremony at this ancient port.

"We send aboard this ship the shining gift of Phoebus Apollo..."

take it to Korea at the end of the earth in a spirit of peace," chanted actress Roula Theologou, dressed as a priestess of Demeter, the ancient goddess of fertility revered at Elefsis.

The Olympic flame, kindled from the sun's rays yesterday at the shrine where the Games were first held is dedicated to Apollo, the god of light.

After the 24-kilometre (16-mile) sea trip to Falirou Bay, Greek athletes were to run the torch through the city to the Par-

thenon temple atop the Acropolis hill.

The hand-over to South Korean officials will take place tomorrow during a musical celebration at the marble stadium where the first modern Games were held in 1896.

A crowd of several thousand Elefsis residents, some holding umbrellas against a blazing sun, cheered as runner Dimitris Goumas handed the torch to the Tirimene skipper, Commander Costas Papados.

Skywriters

to draw Games symbols

SEOUL, South Korea, Aug 24, (AP): Skywriters will etch the five interlocking circles of the Olympics symbol in the sky over the opening ceremonies of the 1988 Summer Olympic Games, organisers said today.

The Seoul Olympic Organising Committee said five planes would draw the circles while another five planes would draw lines in coloured smoke to accentuate the circles.

Clarke to play in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG, Aug 24, (Reuter): Former West Indies Test pace bowler Sylvester Clarke has signed to play for Northern Transvaal in the South African cricket season starting next month, club president Willie Basson said today.

Clarke, who plays for English county side Surrey, is familiar with South African conditions. He first came here with a West Indian rebel team in 1982 and subsequently played for Transvaal between 1983 and 1986.



With only 24 days left before the start of the 1988 Olympics, 161 South Korean picket girls rehearsed for the opening ceremony at a Seoul stadium. (Reuter wirephoto)

IOC chief drops plan to invite Coe to Seoul

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, Aug 24, (Reuter): Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), said today he would not after all seek a special invitation for British athlete Sebastian Coe to compete in Seoul.

Samaranch told Reuters that in view of the opposition from other athletes he had dropped plans to secure a "wild card" entry for Coe, 1,500 metres gold medalist at the 1980 and 1984 Olympics in Moscow and Los Angeles.

Spoken

Samaranch said: "I must say I am very disappointed at the way things have turned out. I have spoken to Sebastian Coe and told him what I have decided."

"But I have invited him to be present in Seoul as my honoured guest."

The IOC chief launched his campaign to secure Coe's participation in Seoul following the double Olympic champion's failure to win a place in the British team at either 800 or 1,500 metres.

"As you are aware I wrote to the British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB) asking if some



Coe: not getting a 'wild card'

way could be found for Seb Coe to take part in the Olympics," Samaranch added.

The BAAB rejected Samaranch's plea, which spokesman Tony Ward described as "quite extraordinary," and the IOC president then began lobbying

for a personal invitation on Coe's behalf. But that move also found little support among Coe's countrymen.

Britain's 1,500 metres world champion Steve Cram, silver medalist behind Coe in Los

Angeles four years ago, said yesterday: "I object to the rules being changed for just one person."

"I live in a part of the world where people have to work for what they get and it's not appreciated when people have things handed to them on a plate."

Allan Wells, Britain's 100 metres gold medalist in Moscow, also voiced his objection to Samaranch's intervention when he said: "I think Seb should have to abide or die by the rules."

"There will be major problems if he is allowed to compete, with a knock-on effect. The Americans will ask for (hurdler) Greg Foster to come in and other countries will probably be saying the same thing."

Coe, widely tipped to become a future member of the IOC, lost his chance to qualify at the British trials when he failed to reach the final of the 1,500 metres. selectors overlooked him for a discretionary place in the 800 metres, preferring Peter Elliott.

Samaranch said that he admired Coe very much as a person and an athlete. "Apart from his two Olympic gold medals he

has made an important contribution to the Olympic movement."

The IOC president said that in a special case like this there had to be agreement by all parties concerned. "This invitation would have been truly exceptional."

"A wild card entry like this is not in the Olympic charter but can be allowed if the international federations permit it."

"I am sorry at the opposition to what would have been a fitting honour for a great athlete and a great sports personality," he added.

Likely

Charles Palmer, chairman of the British Olympic Association, said in London: "I am sad for Seb. I thought it likely he would go."

Asked if he was surprised by the vehemence of other athletes' opposition, Palmer said: "It's understandable really... I can understand their feeling that Seb was being given special consideration just on his athletics performances."

"But I don't think he was. I believe Mr Samaranch also took into consideration his work in the Olympic movement."